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BUZZ OFF!

Skeeter invasion sucks B'klyn dry

THE BROOKLYN ANGLE By Gersh Kuntzman

EXCLUSIVE

People from Greenpoint to Bay Ridge have been complaining about "being eaten alive" by mosquitos this summer — but it's not just the normal seasonal whining: the population of a particularly insidious blood-sucker has doubled this summer alone.

And that cute tyke below is one of the prime victims!

The Brooklyn Paper / Julie Rosenberg

This tot was all smiles before this summer's mosquito invasion.

Sure, he's my son, but he could be your son. In fact, he is your son. And daughter. And yourself.

After getting sporadic, unconfirmed and altogether unscientific reports that there has been a huge uptick in skeeters this summer, I called the Health Department to find out if my neighbors and I were just going mad or if we really become human blood banks.

Confirmed: We are insect food.

The Asian tiger mosquito — a species once entirely unknown to America — is showing up in record numbers in Health Department testing sites all over the borough.

And unlike normal, relatively slow and less aggressive breeds, this ornery beast is ruining barbecues, turning restaurant gardens into feedlots (for the bug, that is) and, yes, biting my son in so many places that he looks like a pincushion.

"It has been a good summer for mosquito [breeding], weather-wise," said Dr. Edgar Butts, the Health Department's assistant commissioner for vetinary and pest control.

"The bad news is that the Asian tiger mosquito has doubled in population. And this is a tenacious mosquito that will really go after you," Butts said.

"The good news is that it's not a good vector for West Nile Virus," he added, putting in his department's standard plea for people to report all standing water in the city's ongoing effort to cut down on West Nile–carrying bugs.

I agree that disease-prevention is one good reason to call 311 whenever you see a water-filled tire. And of course, I'm concerned that my son's only memories of his first summer on earth will be that of repetitive scratching and vague recollections of waking up screaming in pain.

But there's yet another reason to bemoan the fertility of the Asian tiger mosquito: *They're even biting our beloved celebrities!*

"They're with us — especially in Brooklyn, where I live," Park Slope resident and international screen siren Maggie Gyllenhaal told David Letterman last month, during a weird digression about mosquitos. "They're insaaaane in Brooklyn."

See **SKEETERS** on page 12

Brooklyn Image Photo Composite

OUCH! Our columnist's son has been involuntarily giving blood this summer, thanks to the Asian tiger mosquito invasion.

SUCKERS!

'Park' paid $800K to raze land it didn't own

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

The builders of the Brooklyn Bridge Park development shelled out more than $800,000 to tear down a building to make room for a grand public plaza — even though the city was fully intent on seizing the cleared land and delaying the park segment at least five years.

New details have emerged about a major snafu in the long-delayed waterfront open space and luxury condo development — and officials spent the week covering their tracks about how a much-ballyhooed segment of the Brooklyn Bridge Park development ended up being sidetrackd by long-slated city Department of Transportation repairs to the Brooklyn Bridge.

This much is clear:

• In June, officials from the state-run Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation promised that by fall, 2009, the site of the soon-to-be-demolished Purchase Building under the 125-year-old span would be a grand public plaza, possibly hosting a green market and ice-skating rink.

• The development corporation spent more than $800,000 to demolish the Purchase Building — all the while knowing that it did not have control of the property, which is owned by the city Department of Transportation.

• With the Purchase Building still being razed, city transportation officials announced that they would retain the land for bridge repairs that will take at least five years — even though the repairs are not even scheduled to begin.

Those repairs directly undermine the vision for the so-called Bridge Plaza described in Brooklyn Bridge Park planning documents, which describe the Purchase Building site as a major link between the northern and southern end

See **ATLANTIC** on page 2

The Brooklyn Paper / Alison Bosworth

The Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation paid to demolish the Purchase Building even though it did not have control of the land under it.

CON-DON'T!

Activists push for housing-free 'Park'

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

There must be no housing inside Brooklyn Bridge Park — and the entirety of the 85-acre open space and condo development should be protected by being formally zoned as parkland, a coalition of community leaders said on Tuesday.

The group, led by state Senate candidate Daniel Squadron, renewed a longstanding demand that state officials create a "real" Brooklyn Bridge Park — one that would not be a luxury condo development with an open space component.

Squadron, a well-financed newcomer, embraced the community demand in his campaign against 30-year state Sen. Marty Connor (D–Brooklyn Heights), who has supported the current condos-in-the-park proposal.

That Connor-backed scheme displayed fresh shakiness just last week, when Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation officials admitted that the loudly touted first permanent piece of the park — a public piazza and skating rink under the Brooklyn Bridge — would be delayed at least five years.

Squadron saw that delay as evidence that the project needed to be reimagined as a real park, not a state-run development project.

"We are talking about the possibility of creating a great, real, world-class park here on the waterfront," Squadron said in a campaign stop at the foot of Atlantic Avenue, which is slated to be the southern entrance to the development.

See **CON-DON'T!** on page 2

W'burg artist in China hoosegow

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

The Chinese, who are hoping that their efficient oversight of the Beijing Games will wipe away memories of the Tiananmen Square massacre, have arrested one of Williamsburg's best-known multi-media artists after discovering that he planned to project a pro-Tibet message on a building in the Chinese capital.

Artist James Powderly has been in a Chinese jail since Aug. 19 — charged with "upsetting public order," according to a statement put out by the Beijing police department, as transmitted via Agence France-Presse.

Students for a Free Tibet

A Williamsburg artist and several colleagues were arrested in Beijing as part of a roundup of pro-Tibet activists, seen here with a protest banner near the "Bird's Nest" stadium.

With the world watching the Beijing games, the internationally acclaimed graffiti and light art maestro — whose laser "tags" have fleetingly graced the Brooklyn Bridge and the walls of the Museum of Modern Art — tried to steal away some viewers.

But police nabbed him before

See **HOOSEGOW** on page 12

Antiques get old on Atlantic Avenue

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

Even the antiques along Atlantic Avenue are getting too old for the hip, new neighborhood.

A quarter-century ago, the street was an antiques destination and home to 34 stores selling Victorian-era furniture, 1970s-era rotary phones, and everything in between — and homeowners citywide descended on Atlantic Avenue to fill their brownstones.

But tastes have migrated to mid-century modern (and Ikea-modern). Ten years ago, 21 of those stores remained. Today, there are 12.

"Atlantic Avenue is dying as an antiques center," said Bob Simari, owner of Repeat Performance Antiques, which has been at 377-A Atlantic Ave. for 30 years. "It's sad, but it's a fact of life."

Newcomers are favoring less expensive, more sleek furniture. And as apartment prices go up, people can't afford to furnish their multi-million-dollar brownstones the same way they used to, dealers said.

Real-estate broker Tim King of CPEX Realty said the high-end development market is shifting the entire face of Atlantic Avenue.

"It's not a good thing or a bad thing — it's the evolution of retail," King said. "It's a testament to the strength of the neighborhood."

But the antiques dealers insist there is still a market out there. To survive, many dealers are turning to the Internet.

"The future is on the Internet — and the customers know to go there, too," said Circa Antiques and Circa Restoration owner Rachel Leibowicz, who has been in the business for 34 years. "The day of the single storefront of an antiques shop is done. You change or die."

High rents have forced Leibowicz to consolidate her stores

See **ATLANTIC** on page 12

The Brooklyn Paper / Alison Bosworth

Rachel Leibowicz of Circa Antiques has seen many competitors on Brooklyn's famed "Antiques Row" close over the past few years.

Eternal nightmare of the boarded-up crackhouse

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

The Williamsburg house that starred in the film "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" has become an eternal nightmare for neighbors.

Squatters, junkies, and prostitutes have turned the vacant building at 59 Orient Ave. — which served as Kate Winslet's apartment in Michel Gondry's artsy 2004 flick — into a crackhouse, and residents of the tree-lined block say their safety is at risk.

"What was once a nice neighborhood is going downhill because that place is a haven for people who are using drugs," said architect Adam Kehr, who lives next door. "It's scary. We have people walking across our property to go in there to do drugs at all hours of the night."

The once-grand edifice — which, coincidentally, is on the same street where Gondry just bought a home — went vacant last winter when a long-time owner moved out, and by spring it was a destination for druggies.

Since then, neighbors have spied trespassers tying off their arms and smoking from tinfoil pipes in the overgrown front yard.

"Someone needs to do something about this," said neighbor Nina Gilbert, who started carrying mace when she leaves the apartment. "I feel like my safety is really compromised. It used to be a really short and really pleasant walk back from the train — now I don't feel safe."

But the risk of crime isn't the only thing that has neighbors frightened — there have been two fires on the property since it became abandoned, prompting the Fire Department to designate the building as a potentially dangerous structure.

"It's a big fire hazard," said Lourent Girard, who lives across the street and has seen groups of as many as 20 people spend nights in the decaying structure. "Unless they have a guard 24 hours a day, I don't know what they could do other than board up the whole thing."

To keep trespassers out, the owners of the building surrounded the house with a rickety plywood fence and boarded up the front door and first-floor windows.

But the druggies have repeatedly knocked down sections of the fence, neighbors say, giving them easy ac-

See **CRACKHOUSE** on page 14

Killer 'Waterfalls' downs Promenade trees

The Brooklyn Paper / Jessica Firger

The Waterfalls installation has been killing trees near DUMBO's famous River Cafe. Now, it's training its arborcidal terror on the Brooklyn Heights Promenade.

By Jessica Firger
for The Brooklyn Paper

The Waterfalls have claimed another victim.

Trees, shrubs, and greenery along the fabled Brooklyn Heights Promenade are showing severe signs of stress, and in some cases, death — thanks to a constant battering of brackish East River water spewing from Olafur Eliasson's "New York City Waterfalls" project.

The Promenade foliage is just the latest victim of Eliasson's four-headed killing machine. As The Brooklyn Paper reported earlier this month, the waterfalls' saline spray has severely damaged trees at the River Café in DUMBO, turning their greenery a decidely autumnal hue.

http:// What do the locals think? Find out at: BrooklynPaper.com

All around the Montague Street entrance of the 58-year-old Promenade, trees are ailing as leaves catch the constant spray.

"There's nothing to block the wind up here," said Irene Janner of the Brooklyn Heights Association, which will ask the mayor's office to investigate if the situation does not improve.

As with the trees near the DUMBO eatery, the Public Art Fund is working with the Parks Department to fix the damage. Both agencies have agreed that the Waterfalls are definitely the culprit of this epidemic, which has also affected the vegetation near the waterfall on Governors Island.

"Discoloration of leaves can be caused by mist from the harbor's salt water, which can slow a tree's ability to take in water efficiently," the Parks Department said in a statement.

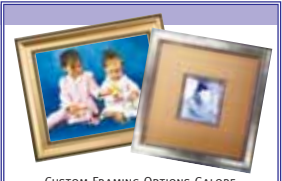
In the same statement, the groups announced that the Public Arts Fund would spearhead an effort to deal with the problem.

"We do not believe they are in any long-term danger," the statement said.

But Promenade-area dwellers, hoping for a prognosis, will need to wait until next summer, when leaves are expected to reappear on trees.

The Brooklyn Paper / Jessica Firger

It's autumn in New York on the Promenade.



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SUCKERS...

Continued from page 1

of the park and condo development that stretches 1.3 miles along the DUMBO and Brooklyn Heights waterfront.

"The Purchase Building acts as a powerful barrier to unifying the northern and southern sections of the proposed park and achieving the full extent of the park," the project's environmental impact statement said. "By removing it, two parks will become one. In addition, its removal would allow for broad vistas of the Brooklyn Bridge's stone piers as well as provide unencumbered views of the Manhattan Bridge in views north."

Not anymore, thanks to the Department of Transportation's disclosure that it needs the site.

"This is necessary safety work that has been planned for years," said Transportation spokesman Seth Solomonow. "It can't be staged elsewhere."

He claimed that DOT is working with the state-run Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation on a plan to share the land. But the project's memorandum of understanding signed by the city and state calls for all open space to eventually become part of a future Brooklyn Bridge Park.

Like officials from the development corporation, Solomonow declined repeated requests for more details.

The park and condo development is proposed to cover 85 acres and will cost more than $300 million. Its soaring price-tag is not the only issue that critics have with the project, which also includes at least 1,200 units of housing in its footprint. The owners of the luxury units inside the park will be charged fees instead of taxes that will be earmarked to underwrite maintenance and operating expenses of the park — though the amount of commercial and residential development can increase if more funds are needed.

And now, the screw up over Bridge Plaza. Elected officials who have supported the development project are furious that the much-touted Old Fulton Street entrance to the park is in jeopardy because of the inter-agency turf war.

"This land was promised for parkland and that's the way it should be," said Councilman David Yassky (D–Brooklyn Heights).

"We all know how the bureaucracy works. A year turns into five years and then 10 years and before you know you can kiss that site goodbye."

CON-DON'T!

Continued from page 1

"We have enormous activity and potential on our waterfront in New York today [and] we have the chance to build a great 21st-century public work," he added.

Longtime Carroll Gardens resident Lisa Pines was one of about a dozen people who joined Squadron's call for a real park — one that would be more than a backyard for luxury buildings, and one that would actually be built before her son, now 10, is too old to enjoy it.

"This needs to not be a playground for rich people, but a full park for the neighborhood," Pines said, with her son, Graham, at her side.

In the decades since community activists and local officials started planning Brooklyn Bridge Park, the proposal has changed from a sprawling public greenspace that would be part of the city's regular park system to a state-built and -operated development whose open-space component would be maintained through fees charged to residents of luxury condos within the park's footprint.

That financing scheme became part of the plan when state development officials required in 2004 that the project be self-financing. But not all community leaders endorsed this idea; some believe that homeowners whose fees maintain the park will likely seek to exercize control over the open space.

Lisa Pines and her 10-year-old son, Graham, joined candidate for state Senate Daniel Squadron in opposing housing inside Brooklyn Bridge Park.

Currently, up to 1,400 units of luxury housing are slated to be built inside the park.

Despite his opposition to housing in the park site, Squadron said he supports another part of the project's revenue-raising scheme — a planned hotel.

"Housing must not be on the table," he said. "Hotels draw people in. Housing requires a private, quiet neighborhood."

And because hotel guests are transients, they would have little influence over the operation of the park.

Incumbent Connor told The Brooklyn Paper that he does not favor housing in the park, but said state officials have "made it very plain" that the housing is essential to supporting the park.

"I'm not in favor of housing in the park, but I'm not willing to risk the park not being built by opposing the housing," Connor said on Tuesday. "The housing does, in fact, take up a much smaller footprint than anything anyone else was trying to think of."

But critics have long pointed out that unless the entire 85 acres are rezoned as parkland — something that is not in the current plan — housing and commercial development could bite into more of the open space if revenues from the initial condos fall off and the park maintenance budget rises.

Supporters of the current development plan questioned the latest call to eliminate housing.

"The whole way to get the city and state to pay for the park was by agreeing it would be a self-sustaining park," said Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy President Marianna Koval.

"I would like to have Mr. Squadron tell us now, before the election, how he would intend to make up the revenue."

But City Council candidate Ken Diamondstone — himself a former Connor opponent — said he "wholeheartedly supports" the latest effort to create a real Brooklyn Bridge Park.

"I would repeat my call to the [Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation] to release the economic data so that we can, as a community, work together to make decisions about the park," Diamondstone said.

EYE of the STORM

The world's best Cyclones coverage

Clones sent 3 to All-Stars

By Gersh Kuntzman and Ed Shakespeare
The Brooklyn Paper

Three Cyclones — the rightly pitchers Brad Holt, Yury Santana and Chris Schwinden — went to the New York–Penn League All-Star team on Tuesday night.

Few starters earned the nod as much as Holt. Despite a slow start for the Brooks, Holt, whom the Mets drafted between the first and second rounds this year, has rallied back to a 4–3 record and a 1.98 ERA. In 54-2/3 innings, Holt has allowed 34 hits, while striking out 69 batters — a league-leading stat. Opponents are batting a mere .178 against him.

"I didn't anticipate making the All-Star team," said Holt of his selection. "I was just trying to concentrate on my pitching."

He certainly did that, said Cyclones' pitching coach Hector Berrios.

"He's been dominating the league," Berrios said. "He has a power fastball, and he's really taking instruction well, especially the last game when he was using is change up."

Santana might never have made the All-Star team were it not for his conversion from shortstop into pitcher. His nine saves puts him in the elite of the league and he hasn't even allowed a hit in 12 of his 19 appearances. Over his last eight games, he's 1–0 with a 0.00 ERA.

"I never made a pro All-Star game as an infielder," said Santana, who played infield with the Cyclones in 2005. "I've been working with Hector on my slider, and that has helped me."

Schwinden has also come out of nowhere to be one of the Cyclones' most-reliable starters. Drafted in the 22nd round this year, the Fresno Pacific University star didn't even join the Cyclones rotation until Aug. 1. But since then, he's since gone 3-0, allowing just three earned runs. His overall 1.31 ERA is second in the league by just .02. Despite only pitching 48 innings, he's tied for seventh in the league in strikeouts and is second in the league with a 0.92 WHIP (walks and hits per innings pitched). In his Aug. 7 start against Lowell, Schwinden tossed seven one-hit innings, and struck out 12 — the best start of the year for him.

The Brooklyn Paper file / Gary Thomas

Starter Brad Holt is an all-star … while reliever Roy Merritt (right) is not.

"Schwinden has been phenomenal," said Berrios. "He's a strike thrower who knows how to put hitters away. He's a pleasant surprise who sneaked up on everybody."

Though it's traditional at All-Star time to bemoan how many position players got snubbed for the honors, the Cyclones actually don't have anyone in the starting lineup worthy of an All-Star nomination.

But the pitching staff, which has been behind the team's recent surge, has at least two others who could have easily joined the fun in Troy.

Reliever Roy Merritt has been an attack dog all year, going after hitters with sometimes overpowering stuff. Merritt is 1–0 with a 1.95 ERA. He's allowed just 16 hits against 38 Ks in a mere 27-2/3 innings.

And reliever Jimmy Johnson is 4–0 with a 1.38 ERA. In his 26 innings, he's allowed just 15 hits while striking out 33.

"Whatever you do, don't say that I said I was 'snubbed!'" Johnson told The Brooklyn Paper's Eye of the Storm coverage team after it was suggested that he was, indeed, snubbed.

"I'm just focussing on doing my best and haven't even looked at the other guys on the All-Star team besides my teammates — and all of them deserved it," he said.

In the game itself, the National League All-Star affiliates scored three runs in the bottom of the ninth to defeat their American League counterparts 4-3 at Joseph L. Bruno Stadium in upstate Troy, home of the Tri-City Valley Cats.

And the Cyclones players did themselves proud.

Holt entered a scoreless game to start the third inning — and he gave up no hits while striking out two.

Santana pitched a perfect eighth inning to help hold the National League's lead, though neither he nor Holt figured in the decision.

Schwinden did not pitch because he started the Cyclones' game on Sunday.

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Umpires go to the video man!

By Ed Shakespeare
The Brooklyn Paper

Fred DeJesus arrived at Keyspan Park on Aug. 16 and made his usual pre-game preparations as a member of the Cyclones video booth squad — including checking in with the umpires to make sure they had everything they need for the upcoming contest.

Then he went upstairs to the video booth and worked the first game of the Cyclones' twilight double-header against the Tri-City Valley Cats.

In the second inning of the nightcap, home plate ump Mathieu Moisans was hit in the mask with a fastball. He was hit again in the top of the sixth inning — and this time, began to feel light-headed and dizzy.

When Cyclones' trainer Matt Hunter recommended that he go to the hospital with a possible concussion, he might not have agreed so readily had he not known about DeJesus's double life: he's also a trained and certified umpire.

The Brooklyn Paper file / Gary Thomas

Cyclones video man Fred DeJesus is also a certified umpire. It's a good thing, too, because he got to fill in on Saturday night, after the home plate ump got injured. The Cyclones won. Just a coincidence?

In fact, DeJesus, 35, a resident of Bensonhurst, had just umpired an American Legion game in Canarsie before the doubleheader, so, as always, he had his umpiring equipment with him.

"[Cyclones' General Manager] Steve Cohen explained to the Tri-City manager [Pete Rancont] that I was a certified umpire, and he agreed to allow me to fill in," said DeJesus.

Base umpire Matt Jones — there are only two umps at a New York-Penn League regular season game — took over behind the plate, and DeJesus manned the bases.

In addition to umpiring college games, DeJesus fills in as an umpire in the professional independent Canadian-American League, so he's no neophyte to pro baseball.

"I wasn't really that nervous," said Dejesus about his field promotion.

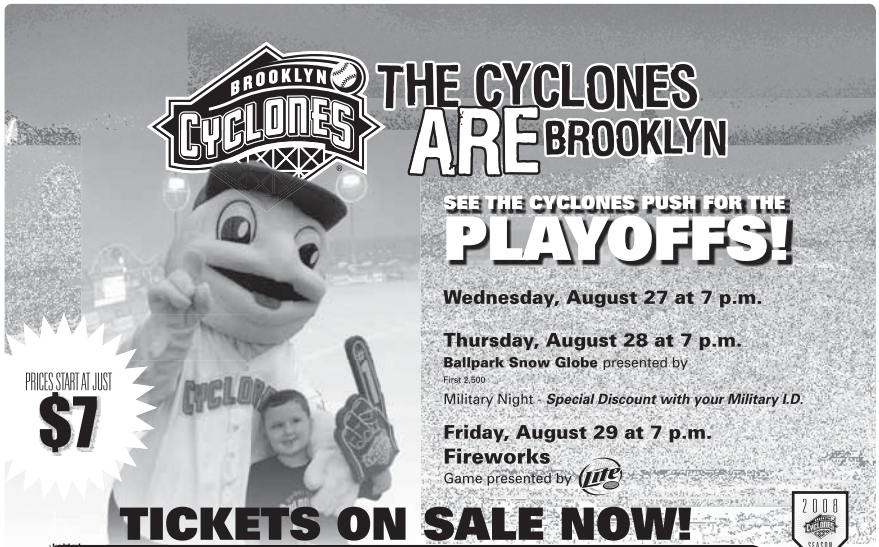
There's a reason for his grace under fire. In his career, DeJesus has now umpired six Cyclones' games, including away games at Staten island and at Aberdeen.

A similar call to umpire two years ago resulted in an argument with then-Cyclones manager Mookie Wilson in which DeJesus calmly stuck to his guns on a close, and apparently correct, call that went against his employer, the Cyclones.

"There weren't any tough calls this time," said DeJesus of his latest experience. The Cyclones were leading 6–1 when he entered the game, and went on to win 6–2.

The next day, Moisans was still under doctors orders to rest, but to avoid any appearance of impropriety, another umpire filled in.

DeJesus was back in the video booth, ready for his next call to duty.



The Play's the Thing

By Ed Shakespeare

'Oisk' wins — again!

Carl Erskine won again on Sunday, which is no surprise to anyone familiar with Brooklyn Dodger baseball.

No, Erskine, who won 122 games in the big leagues (including two no-hitters) and lost only 78 (a winning percentage of .610), did not win another baseball game, but he won everything else in sight and left the Keyspan Park faithful all better for the experience.

The Dodger right-hander was in Coney Island for Carl Erskine Bobblehead Night, and while Erskine's bouncing giveaway likeness was a treat, the real man was even better. Erskine began his stint by greeting invited well-wishers in the Keyspan Park Gallery, then addressed the packed Keyspan crowd, noting the historical significance of Brooklyn's acceptance of Jackie Robinson.

Then, the hurler recalled Brooklyn's only World Series champions, the 1955 team — on which he starred.

"There are only nine players left from the 40-man roster," he noted.

Next on the agenda was a special baseball card flipping match pitting Erskine against Robert Kersten of Long Island, who had won a qualifying heat earlier that afternoon.

The Brooklyn Paper / Gary Thomas

Brooklyn Dodger great Carl Erskine was feted at Keyspan Park on Sunday.

The Dodger pitcher put his right arm to good use, and won the first two flips of the best-of-three contest to immediately clinch the win.

Yet this 81-year-old Dodger didn't come back to Brooklyn to rest, so his next task was to perform the National Anthem — on his harmonica.

Time for a rest? Let's remember, Erskine comes from an era of complete games, so the Hoosier's next job was to throw out the first pitch — a strike.

Erskine was next honored by having his name and his number 17 placed on a permanent banner on Keyspan's upper deck behind home plate.

Then the Dodger legend went back to the Gallery for a press conference prior to his spending several hours greeting fans on the concourse and signing hundreds of copies of his book, "Tales From the Dodger Dugout."

In the Gallery, he discussed coming to Brooklyn as a 21-year-old rookie in 1948: "I didn't have any money," said Erskine. "So I stayed at the Hanson Street YMCA."

When his career was established, Erskine lived each year with his family in Bay Ridge. But initially, he thought the adjustment to living in Brooklyn would be immense.

"I was a skinny kid in Indiana [and came] to the big city only to find out that Bay Ridge was just like my hometown. I knew the baker, the butcher, the barber, and the deli guy down the street. You'd pitch a good game in a big game at Ebbets Field and they'd have a street party, the balloons in the trees. … Brooklyn was my second home."

Later, Erskine discussed what he believes is the most important legacy of the Dodgers.

"History is going to talk about baseball in Brooklyn [which] accepted a black player and broke a terrible, traditional bond of separation. Brooklyn, an ethnically mixed community, was the ideal stage. … The Brooklyn people accepted Jackie immediately.

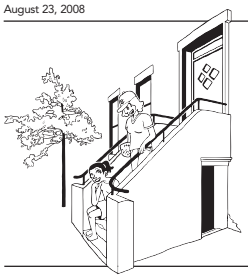
"Oh, he could play, no question, and you always like to have a good player on your side, but they accepted him for who he was, not what he was, and that taught the whole nation a lesson…because America became more inclusive, more accepting, and all that started in 1947 when they cheered Jackie as a first baseman for the first time.

"So this is a special place."

CHANNELING THE BARD

Each week, the Bard of Brooklyn Baseball summons the spirit of his Elizabethan ancestor. This week's edition is entitled, ***"Oisk"***:

When Oisk was young, he threw for Brooklyn herds.
A fastball, curve and change, each one in place.
His arm has slowed — now what he hurls are words.
Now pitching sounds, he varies tone and pace.
He's still the master, gather round, come near.
He's throwing wisdom, listen hard — and hear.



THE stoop

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

FORT GREENE

Workers of the co-op unite!

The Brooklyn Paper

Members of a fledgling food co-op in Fort Greene and Clinton Hill voted overwhelmingly last week to require that every member toil in their eventual communal store in order to earn the privilege of purchasing fresh produce and organic goodies at a discount.

The alternative, which was rejected by a two-thirds vote of the Greene-Hill Food Co-op, was a co-op that allows non-workers to enjoy the same discount as members. In the co-op world, the difference is like organic oranges and pesticide-covered apples.

The vote puts the Greene Hill Food Coop squarely on a trail blazed by its more famous cousin, the 13,000-member Park Slope Food Co-op, which is only open to individuals who labor for two-and-three-quarters hours every four weeks.

Now the hard work must be done: Members must incorporate themselves, find a storefront and assemble the capital to stock the shelves with tofu, kohlrabi and various granolas, among other irreplaceable products.

— Mike McLaughlin

B'KLYN HEIGHTS

Moon-sold!

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

A Brooklyn family has gone over the moon — to the tune of $4 million! — for one of the most famous houses in Brooklyn Heights: the mansion where "Moonstruck" was filmed.

The house at the corner of Cranberry and Willow streets was featured in the 1987 movie in which a widowed Cher falls in love with Nicholas Cage, all while engaged to his brother.

Real-estate broker Elliott Lokitz said the house went for "more than the [current] asking price" of $4 million. The home's owners, Edwards and Francesca Rullman, put the house on the market in 2006 for $5 million, but lowered the asking price last year, Lokitz said.

The house's exterior was featured prominently in the movie. In one memorable scene, Olympia Dukakis, who won an Academy Award for her supporting role as Cher's mother, is standing outside the house with a romantic interest.

"My God, it's a mansion!," the suitor says.

"It's a house," Dukakis replies.

Corcoran Group

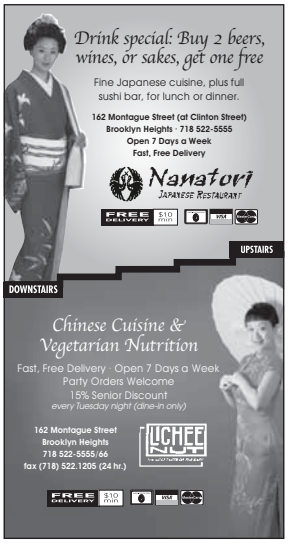
This house at the corner of Willow and Cranberry streets has been sold for just over $4 million.

The four-story, Federal-style double-townhouse was built in 1829 and has a landscaped garden, private parking area, multiple fireplaces, and hardwood floors. Lokitz said the Rullmans, who had lived there since 1959, worked hard to preserve the house in its original condition and detailing.

Lokitz said the former owners ultimately decided "it was time," and will move permanently into a second home in Cape Cod.

CORRECTION

In "Bloomy cheers Connor's foe" (Aug. 16), we reported that state Sen. Marty Connor, one of the state's top election lawyers, worked "against" Democratic gubernatorial candidate Carl McCall in 2002. Connor *was* a lawyer for third-party candidate Thomas Golisano, but, he told The Brooklyn Paper, he did so with the encouragement of the McCall campaign, which hoped a Golisano run would weaken incumbent Gov. Pataki. In addition, Connor *did* support Mayor Bloomberg's congestion pricing plan, but the legislature failed to take up the measure earlier this year.



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THE stoop

PARK SLOPE PROSPECT HEIGHTS, SUNSET PARK WINDSOR TERRACE, KENSINGTON

The Slope 'Ripper' explained

Sister speaks out to Brooklyn Paper about flier snatcher

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

Leave "The Ripper" alone! That's what the sister of the so-called "Park Slope Ripper" — the man who tears down people's stoop sale, "Help Wanted" and "man with van" signs from neighborhood lampposts — is begging the people of Park Slope, some of whom are increasingly angry about the man's neatnik vigilantism.

"The public needs to understand my brother, that he does this because he is autistic," said the sister, who requested anonymity because there have been threats against her brother as he's walked his flier-removal beat throughout Park Slope and nearby Prospect Heights.

The Brooklyn Paper got in touch with the woman after she responded to a story last week about the activities of the so-called "Ripper." That story recounted that some people in the neighborhood are angry that he is pulling down signs, which are actually illegal, though others defended his activities as a public service.

She also posted a long letter on the Web site Brooklynian that asked her neighbors to "please leave him be."

She signed it, "Concerned Sister 11215."

In a subsequent interview with The Brooklyn Paper, the sister said her older brother's sign-removal campaign started about five years ago and is directly related to his autism.

"He's not doing this to be an a—hole or a killjoy or to inconvenience people," she said. "It is something that his mind believes he absolutely must do. My mother often describes that he thinks of it as his job, his mission. He is compelled to do it."

She said the family has long tried to get him to stop — mostly out fear that someone who has posted a sign will harm him — but he continues to keep his daily schedule of tidying the neighborhood.

"He has been confronted many times," she said. "He gets upset and comes home and relates the incidents to my mother and to me. There's a specific group of people from a moving company who have threatened him physically. But people have to understand that he is absolutely not violent and not a threat to anyone."

The sister was angered by a widely distributed physical description of the man that suggested that he had a "weasly" face "that makes you immediately dislike him."

"Some of the bloggers say he appears angry, but it's really just social awkwardness," she said. "The fact is that he has so much difficulty even interacting with people that he doesn't even try anymore. People perceive his look as one of anger, but he is not dangerous!"

She also objected to the suggestion that some residents have become "Ripper hunters," hoping to confront her brother and get him to stop tearing down local fliers. Others have said they want to punch out the man.

"You have no idea what it felt like to read that," said the woman.

"He is an incredibly vulnerable person, not some monster to be hunted down. He has suffered his entire life. He has suffered enough."

She and her husband, who works with autistic children, said they have tried to channel the man's crusade into something with an official capacity, perhaps as a Park volunteer that could offer an element of protection, but their efforts have come to naught.

"The problem is that low self-esteem makes him reluctant to interact with people," she said.

The good news is that sometimes people do offer encouragement, she said. But he's ill-equipped to receive it.

"If you want to say, 'Good job, keep it up,' that's great, and he may even manage a reply, but don't expect to have a whole conversation with him," she said.

The Brooklyn Paper file / Alison Stoscorb

A man has become a folk hero (and villain) for going around Park Slope tearing down these kinds of signs.

Mag: Slope is jazz epicenter

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn is the city's new jazz epicenter — and two Park Slope venues are part of the reason why, according to the Utne Reader, a literary journal.

The magazine specifically gave shout-outs to the Tea Lounge — the one on Union Street near Seventh Avenue, not the one on Seventh Avenue that just closed — and Barbès, the vest-pocket club near the corner of Ninth Street and Sixth Avenue.

These factors are "starting to give the borough the kind of reputation for jazz that SoHo and [Greenwich] Village once had," the magazine wrote.

If by "reputation" the magazine means "in your lap," than the tribute to Barbes is well-earned. The Frenchy club is so small that performers are literally in the audience's face. When a band like the 12-member Life in a Blender performs, fans are often called upon to pass drinks to the stage. And when blues legend Danny Kalb performed there earlier this year, audience members didn't have to shout out their favorite songs for Kalb to play; they barely had to whisper.

The scene has gotten so organized that three years ago, a group of musicians created the Brooklyn Jazz Underground to help each other book tours, market their music, and record their work.

Or as longtime jazz musician Joel Frahm, who just moved to Brooklyn, told the magazine: "Brooklyn feels like Manhattan used to feel when I first moved to town."

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AUGUST RECOMMENDATIONS

RW&B Best Buys
Darrin Siegfried's Best Buys for August!

Swartland Chardonnay $9.95
Tastes more like Puligny-Montrachet than South Africa! I thought I was tasting a white Burgundy when I sampled this one! Plenty of irresistible aromas of grapefruit and quince. The flavors are full, rich and ripe with peach, butterscotch, lime, toasted walnuts and creamy vanilla/oak notes, along with that sophisticated mineral note that is a signature of much more expensive Chardonnays.

Villa Pozzi Pinot Grigio $9.95
What a truly GREAT value! It's such a pleasure to find such a delicious wine at such a bargain price! Light straw in color, with a charming, softly perfumed bouquet of rose petals and honeysuckle. Well-balanced and smooth, round on the palate, crisp, dry, clean and refreshing.

Cottage Road Cabernet Sauvignon $9.95
This beats the pants off $15 California Cabernets! The best part of my job is bringing you wines like this: layers of ripe, rich aromas of cocoa, cedar and mint. Flavors of blackberry, blueberry, cassis and mocha fill your mouth and reveal layers of toasty vanilla.

Terrazzo Esino Bianco, by Moncaro $9.49
The perfect summertime aperitif! One whiff of the inviting aromas of peach, lemon, lime leaves, hazelnuts and grapefruit and you'll be glad you brought this Italian home! Now for the flavors! Bright, crisp and lively with tastes of pear, peach, melon and mango, anchored with a definite mineral note that dances on your palate. Serve this with almost any dish that calls for a white wine.

Buy the 4-pack and save 10% $35.41
Mix & match any 6 Best Buys, save 10%! Any 12, save 15%!

RW&B Discovery Wines
Darrin's Discovery Wines for August!

Willm Blanc De Blancs $13.95
You don't have to pay $40 for bubbly! Those 'in the know' recognize the cool, dry climate of Alsace as being ideal for making the kind of lean, crisp, dry wines that can be made into first-rate bubble... and the Willm family has been doing it for more than a century! Bright, tasty and lively, this is a favorite of mine.

Virgile Costieres De Nimes Cuvee L'Eneide $18.49
Like a Baby Châteauneuf But at half the price! One great benefit of learning about wines is that you find the real values, those wines that taste like you paid more for them. Years ago I found the wines from this Rhône valley appellation, and I've been a fan ever since. Rich and full without being hot or overpowering, this is the one to pour with steaks (or good burgers!) on the grill, with lamb or pork.

Ravines Keuka Village $11.95
This is going to make you smile! A dry white blend that makes an ideal summertime sipper AND will go well with any warm weather dish. Tangy apple and pear flavors with a hint of citrus, this palate pleaser will turn any meal into a picnic, and any picnic into a celebration!

Buy the 2-pack and save 10% $39.95

RW&B Cellar Selections
Cellar Selection for August!

Thomas Coyne Mourvèdre
This one will make your reputation as a wine lover! Open a bottle and your friends will all ask "What is Mourvédre? You'll smile, knowingly, and say that Mourvédre (moor VED ruh) is native to the south of France and is an important component in almost every Côtes du Rhône and Châteauneuf-du-Pape that they've ever had. Made from grapes grown on 82 year-old vines, there is plenty of dark, ripe fruit flavor here with a slight smoky note, a hint of wild herbs, cocoa and vanilla, clean and crisp on the palate with a smooth and round mouth feel. Rich and complex, this wine can be opened and enjoyed tonight, although it will continue to improve with another 3 to 5 years of cellaring. Simply keep this bottle in a cool, dark spot (the floor of a rarely-used closet can be turned into a workable cellar) and allow time to work its' magic. In a few years you can enjoy a bottle of mature wine that will taste as if you paid much more than you did, and there will be no more on the market. Only 200 cases of this amazing, delicious wine were made, so you know it will run out very soon. This is all about investing for your pleasure, and aren't you worth every cent?

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Park death: It was MURDER!

By Michael Lipkin
for The Brooklyn Paper

Cops have collared the man who they say brutally murdered a Bensonhurst resident in Prospect Park last month, though his lawyer says that his confession may have been coerced.

The suspect, Santiago Perez, was charged with murder and robbery, and held without bail, at his arraignment on Wednesday.

Cops say he killed 41-year-old Afzal Mohammed late on July 29 near Lookout Hill in the Windsor Terrace portion of the fabled greensward.

According to court documents, Perez encountered Mohammed in the park, attempted to rob him, and later hit him in the back of the head twice with a tree limb.

He then took money from Mohammed's wallet before fleeing.

Mohammed's body was found at 8 am by a parks worker.

A police spokesman said that witnesses led police to Perez.

While in custody, Perez confessed that he committed the crime, the NYPD spokesman said.

But Perez's lawyer, David Walensky, told The Brooklyn Paper that his client's statements might have been forced.

"He doesn't speak English well. … He's an ignorant man," Walensky said, claiming cops took advantage of his client's mental capacity.

"He told me that he was threatened with torture and that they would use a device to shock him [if he didn't confess]."

The police spokesman would not comment on Walensky's charge that police threatened Perez with torture.

The Brooklyn Paper / Allison Bosworth

Cops say they now have the man who killed another man in Prospect Park on July 29.

Early fix for Hamilton span

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

A key bridge over Brooklyn's most-troubled waters — the fetid Gowanus Canal — is back to nearly full capacity this week, two weeks ahead of schedule.

The Department of Transportation has finished the latest phase of the $55-million rehab of the Hamilton Avenue Bridge, a drawbridge that links Carroll Gardens to Park Slope and points south along busy Hamilton Avenue.

Project workers replaced mechanical and electrical operating systems, installed new lights, and renovated the control and bridge tender houses — and now the eight-lane span (actually two four-lane bridges next to each other) — is carrying six lanes of traffic.

That's up from just four when the repairs started in 2005.

All eight lanes of the bridge will return in mid-October. One lane in each direction is still closed while construction crews repave the road, test the bridge's strength, and install light sculptures as part of a city-mandated public art component.

Community Board 6 District Manager Craig Hammerman said it is "always good news" to hear that a project is ahead of schedule, and added that he is most looking forward to that new art installation.

Brooklyn-based artist Jim Conti designed a programmable lighting installation that will be attached to the bridge's tall, rounded stone towers. The programmable lights will change according to different factors, Hammerman said.

"There will be some kind of exiting, animated feature associated with the lighting," he said. "It's something that will really be alive."

Several ideas so far include a light pattern that varies with the tide, or with the volume of traffic passing over the bridges, Hammerman said.

Hammerman was not the only person pleased that the main bridge work is done.

"It's a wonderful surprise!" said Robin Doddie, who uses the bridge regularly. "I never expected it to be done on time, let alone early."

The Brooklyn Paper / Emily Lipkin

Repairs to the vital Hamilton Avenue Bridge are done — two weeks ahead of schedule.

Ask Your Neighbor What He's Doing to Protect His Historic Home

There are a number of neighborhoods in this part of New York that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and many home owners in those neighborhoods who have made the decision to preserve the architectural integrity of their homes forever. They are participating in the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentive Program and have made historic preservation easement donations on the exterior of their buildings to qualified preservation organizations, often making them eligible to claim a tax deduction. The Trust for Architectural Easements is one of the largest preservation easement holding organizations in the nation, preserving the architectural integrity of the exterior of more than 800 historic buildings across the country, many of them in this area of New York.

To learn more about the Trust's local preservation efforts, the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentive Program, and the donation process, attend our free informational seminar, or contact Trust representative **Bob Regevik** at **718-832-8400** or **rregevik@architecturaltrust.org** to request a meeting or obtain more information.

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Park Slope

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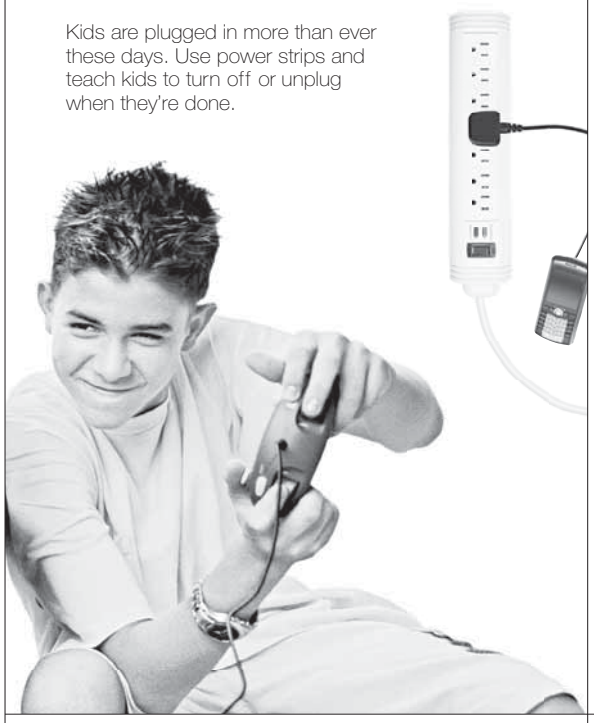

Energy Tip 69

Unplug cell phone, MP3 player and PDA chargers when not in use. They use electricity even when they are not charging.

Energy Tip 103

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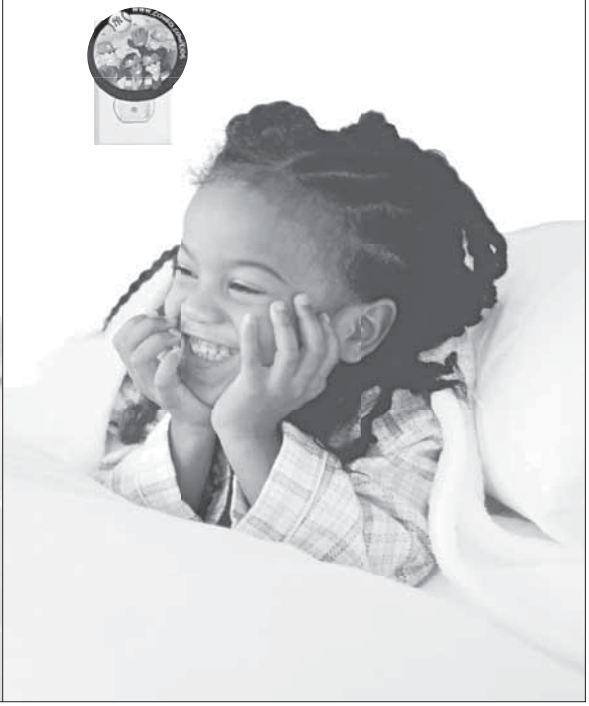

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4 muggings in Brooklyn Heights

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights–DUMBO Downtown–Boerum Hill

At least four people in the neighborhood were mugged last week. Here's a round-up:

• Two perps mugged a Brooklyn Heights man on Aug. 9 as he was walking along Remsen Street near Montague Terrace at 11:30 pm. One thug grabbed the 47-year-old man by his arm while the other demanded money. When the man, who lives on Joralemon Street, refused, one thug punched him in the face while the other grabbed his wallet anyway.

• Three perps threatened a Manhattan man with a toy gun on the corner of Orange Street and Columbia Heights on Aug. 14 around 10:40 pm. As the thugs approached him, one asked him for the time and then asked for his watch. That's when a second perp said, "We will shoot you, so don't make any noise," cops said. The man handed over his wallet, watch, cellphone, and $100, and the perps ran away.

• Three punks stole a Boerum Hill teenager's belongings on Aug. 15. The victim, who is 13, was standing at the corner of Court Street and Atlantic Avenue around 8 pm when the three punks walked up to him and said, "Run your s—." The victim told cops that he responded, "I don't know what you're talking about," but then the punks started rifling through his pockets. The perps found his cellphone and wallet, and took off running. But the victim chased them for several blocks until one punk looked back, said, "Why are you following me? I'll cut your face," and punched the victim in the face.

• Later that evening, two punks mugged another victim at the same corner. A Boerum Hill man had just left the movie theater up the block when one perp approached him, pulled out a knife, and said, "Give me your money and cellphone." The victim complied, but then the perp said, "That's not all your money. Give it to me or I will cut you," cops said. The victim forked over $450, and the perps raced away.

Thug in cradle

Three thugs mugged a Brooklyn Heights man on Aug. 3 as he was sitting in a park at the corner of Middagh Street and Columbia Heights.

The perps approached the 30-year-old at around 11 pm when he was sitting on a bench in Harry Chapin Park and talking on his cellphone. One thug punched him repeatedly in the face while a second pulled out a silver knife, and a third told the victim, "Don't move or we'll kill you," cops said.

The perps stole the phone, wallet, and $80, and then raced away.

Bolted

A burglar broke into a Livingston Street apartment on Aug. 14 and made off with an iPod and expensive phones.

The resident of the unit, which is near Adams Street, told police that she discovered the crime when she returned home at 9:30 pm. The her deadbolt was open and her bathroom light was on.

"I always deadlock the bolt and never leave the lights on," she told cops.

Fight fright

Never have a fight with your girlfriend: that's not just good relationship advice, but it's also a warning to would be lovers' quarrelers that there is a perp on the loose who preys on feuding couples.

That's what happened on Aug. 14 at around 2 pm, when a couple appeared to be fighting on Flatbush Avenue near State Street, when a thug came over and identified himself as a police officer.

Not that cops act this way, but the fake officer pushed the boyfriend against a fence and grabbed the girlfriend's bag, which contained $160. He then fled toward Hanson Place.

For the record, the boyfriend and girlfriend told police that they were only "play fighting."

— Sarah Portlock

88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene–Clinton Hill

Apple a day

Four scoundrels beat up a man on Vanderbilt Avenue in order to steal his iPhone on Aug. 13.

The villains punched and kicked the 22-year-old victim to the ground on the block near the corner of Greene Avenue at 3 am before removing the prized invention of Steve Jobs from his hand.

Bagel bugle

A vulnerable DeKalb avenue restaurant was robbed again overnight on Aug. 7, the latest incident in a larger spree against eateries on Fort Greene's commercial hub.

The crook triggered an alarm system at 4:30 am, but by the time police and employees arrived to the scene, they were left looking at the evidence of a broken window and mangled security gates.

POLICE BLOTTER

Find more online every Wednesday at
www.BrooklynPaper.com/blotter

Employees said that a cash register, home theater and $49 had been in the store, which is between Clermont Avenue and Adelphi Street, when they left at 10 pm that night.

Sticks & stones

A teenager pelted a man with stones while he walked down Fleet Walk on Aug. 11.

The 29-year old victim told police that he was ambling between Myrtle Avenue and Tillary Street at 6:30 pm when a young man bombarded him with pebbles and rocks. He ended up with scratches and contusions.

— Mike McLaughlin

76TH PRECINCT

Red Hook–Cobble Hill Carroll Gardens

Apple picking

If it wasn't for bad lock, there'd be no lock at all.

A burglar broke into a Smith Street building on Aug. 15 and stole a Mac laptop.

The 24-year-old victim told police that the lock on the front door, between Warren and Baltic streets, had been busted open between 9 am to 5 pm.

See saw

A thief burglarized a construction site on Columbia Street on Aug. 15.

The flimsy plywood door was no match for the intruder, who struck between 12:30 and 2:30 am, according to the resident of the building, which is between Kane and Degraw streets.

According to the police report, several types of saws were taken from the construction site.

You've got jail?

Burglars broke into a Third Street apartment on Aug. 13 and got, what else?, a laptop.

In the dwelling, between Hoyt and Bond streets, the criminal's presence was evidenced by mangled kitchen curtains that wound up on the floor.

— Mike McLaughlin

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope

Gold transferred

A woman was brutally mugged as she made a transfer at the Fourth Avenue and Ninth Street subway station at about 5 pm on Aug. 7.

Cops say the victim, 48, was transferring from the R train to the Manhattan-bound F train around 5 pm and had reached the relatively quiet mezzanine when three men shoved her up against a fence and demanded booty.

When the woman paused, one of the perps ripped a gold bracelet, necklace, ring and earrings right off her body before all three fled.

Cops are hunting for three men, all around 5-foot-6.

iGrab

A man's iPhone was snatched from his hand on Sixth Avenue on Aug. 14.

Cops say the victim, 30, was gabbing away on the block between Carroll Street and Garfield Place at around 5:30 pm when a man ran up and grabbed the device.

In a similar crime two days later, a thug snatched the bag of a woman as she walked on Flatbush Avenue between Prospect Place and Seventh Avenue at around 10 pm.

In that crime, the 64-year-old victim lost a gym bag that contained a Metrocard, library cards and a gift card.

Hurt again

A man recuperating at a Seventh Avenue hospital was robbed of more than $12,000 in electronics and jewelry on Aug. 16 — and cops are hunting for a comely friend of his.

The victim, who had been admitted to the hospital at around 1 am that morning, was unconscious when the friend, who had ridden in the ambulance with him to the medical center, told nurses that she was the man's wife.

As a result of that lie, the staff handed over the man's cellphone equipment, $11,500 in gold jewelry and $900.

Brutalized

A group of men attacked a Fort Greene man as he walked on Douglass Street on Aug. 14.

The victim, 36, told cops that he was on the block between Third and Fourth avenues at around 9:30 pm when two or three men rushed over to him. After one warned, "Give me your s–t," the other man or men pushed him to the ground and kicked his head.

After taking the man's iPod and cellphone, the group fled.

Knifer nabbed

One man was arrested, though two accomplices remain at large, after mugging a food deliveryman on Fourth Avenue on Aug. 14.

The victim, 32, told cops that he was between First Street and Garfield Place at around 2 pm when a man came over, flashed a knife and demanded cash. Two other men were there for muscle.

After the victim turned over $50, the trio fled. Hours later, cops picked up a suspect, sitting alone in a car on Fifth Avenue between Fifth and Sixth streets. He was charged with robbery, criminal possession of a weapon and menacing.

Pee party

A man who was publicly urinating in Grand Army Plaza on Aug. 11 should have limited his criminal activity to violating city code 16, section 118 — but he was so angered to get a summons for his illegal spraying that he started punching the cops who gave him the ticket, police said.

The drip was still urinating on the sidewalk around Grand Army Plaza at 2:45 pm when two plainclothes officers approached, identified themselves as cops, and started writing a ticket.

After the officers demanded identification, the urinator allegedly went wild, verbally abusing and then punching both cops.

The 45-year-old man was charged with assaulting an officer and resisting arrest.

Rings-o-leave-e-o

A jewel thief, possibly working with an attractive accomplice, ripped off more than $9,000 in rings from a Fifth Avenue gem store on Aug. 11.

Cops say the thief entered the store at 12th Street, at 3:10 pm — about the same time that a woman was being helped by a clerk.

With the clerk distracted, the man reached behind the counter, removed 20 rings and left.

— Gersh Kuntzman

94TH PRECINCT

Greenpoint–Williamsburg

Big burgs

Burglars made out like thieves last week, getting away with thousands of dollars worth of electronics and personal possessions:

• Thieves crawled through the window of a North Seventh Street apartment, between Barry and Wythe streets, and took out two Macintosh laptops, $100, two Olympus cameras, and expensive jewelry at around 1pm on Aug. 10.

• Burglars entered a North Sixth Street apartment, between Driggs Avenue and Roebling Street, while the tenant was sleeping on Aug. 11, removing two Macbooks, two iPhones, a Blackberry, a backpack and other accessories.

• On the same day, a woman lost many valuables while she was moving into an apartment on Bedford Avenue between North Third and North Fourth streets.

• A thief broke into a North Fifth Street apartment, between Roebling Street and Driggs Avenue, at around 9 am on Aug. 14, taking a Macbook, two iPods, and three designer watches.

• Burglars entered an India Street house, between McGuiness Boulevard and Provost Street, and left with a man's acoustic and electric guitars, an Apple desktop computer, a fancy backpack, camera equipment, video games, and clothing, between 9:30 am and 5 pm on Aug. 17.

• A man came back to his North Eighth Street apartment, between Berry Street and Bedford Avenue, to find his desktop computer, laptop, cellphone and digital camera missing.

Bike bastard

A bike-riding mugger attacked a woman on North Eighth Street on Aug. 14, grabbing her handbag, cops said.

The woman told police that she was heading to Berry Street and Bedford Avenue at around 1:50 pm when the bandit struck.

He grabbed her bag, which contained $250 and various cards. *— Allison Bosworth*

90TH PRECINCT

Williamsburg-Bushwick

Bad-dana

A thug sporting a white bandana robbed a woman at gunpoint on Harrison Avenue Aug. 16.

The 29-year-old victim was at the corner of Wallabout Street at around 12:50 am when the suspect, with the bandana covering the lower half of his face, approached her, flashed a gun and ordered her to kneel on the ground.

The man grabbed her wallet and cellphone before fleeing.

— Emily Lavin

SMASH! More cars are looted in DUMBO, D'town, Vinegar Hill

By Sarah Portlock
The Brooklyn Paper

Cops have stepped up their patrols in and around DUMBO, Brooklyn Heights and Downtown hoping to thwart a spate of car break-ins that have prompted area residents to organize a virtual "Citizens Patrol," The Brooklyn Paper has learned.

Thieves have broken into at least seven vehicles in the neighborhoods, stealing iPods and wallets from cars and construction equipment from commercial vehicles, cops said. Reported crimes include:

• A Long Island man parked his car on Plymouth Street, near Pearl Street in DUMBO, on Aug. 2 at 10 pm, only to return the next day and find it gone.

• A perp broke into a Connecticut man's new Infinity sedan on Aug. 10 on State Street, near Flatbush Avenue in Downtown. The victim parked the car around 5:30 am, and returned later that morning to find his driver's-side window broken and four credit cards gone.

• A contractor's van was broken into on Aug. 11 around 12:30 pm, on Aitken Place between Sidney Place and Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights. The owner had parked there three hours earlier, and when he returned, saw the burglar running away with a cement chipper worth $2,000.

• A perp broke into a car on Pacific Street near Bond Street in Boerum Hill on Aug. 12 around 7 pm. His loot included nearly $11,000 worth of Canon cameras, lenses, flash cards, and batteries.

• A car that was parked on Hoyt Street between Fulton Mall and Livingston Street in Downtown on Aug. 14 was broken into sometime between 8:30 and 11:30 am — and $300 was taken.

• A perp broke into a car that was parked at the corner of Concord and Jay streets in DUMBO on Aug. 16. The victim parked at 7:30 am, and when she returned that evening, the driver's window was broken and her wallet, which contained $400, was missing.

• A 2002 Audi was broken into on Schermerhorn Street, between Bond and Nevins streets in Downtown, on Aug. 17 between 9:30 and 11:30 am.

Residents believe that there are more crimes that go unreported, which keeps police in the dark about what is actually happening. That's why members of the affected neighborhoods are keeping tabs on the problem through the online "citizen patrol" Web site, waterstreetwindowsmash.blogspot.com.

"No matter how pointless it might seem at the time, [any and all crimes] need to go on the books. Otherwise, to the NYPD, it never happened and neighborhood is doing just fine," one poster wrote on the Web site.

The police source said that cops have narrowed down the suspect to "four or five" repeat offenders, but can't arrest anyone until they can tie specific crimes to the suspects.

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To East End* (Eastbound)

	MONTAUK LINE ⬇ READ DOWN AM LIGHT PM BOLD	Fri PM Only	NORTH FORK LINE	Fri PM Only
DEPARTING	Park Slope - 4th Avenue & 9th Street	5:30	Park Slope	5:30
	Park Slope - 4th Avenue & Union Street	5:35	Park Slope	5:35
	Boerum Hill - Atlantic Avenue & 3rd Avenue	5:45	Boerum Hill	5:45
	B. Heights -Tillary St. between Cadman Plaza East & West	6:00	B. Heights	6:00
ARRIVING	Manorville	7:50	Tanger Outlet	8:00
	Southampton	8:15	Riverhead	8:05
	Water Mill	8:20	Aquebogue	8:10
	Bridgehampton	8:30	Jamesport	8:15
	Wainscott	8:35	Laurel	8:20
	East Hampton	8:45	Mattituck	8:25
	Amagansett	8:55	Cutchogue	8:35
	Napeague	9:10	Peconic	8:40
	Montauk	9:15	Southold	8:45
			Greenport	8:55

Brooklyn Service Eastbound Pick-up Locations: 1 Trip on Fridays
1) 4th Ave. @ 9th St. - East side of 4th between 8th and 9th Streets at the M, R & F subway station entrance in front of the Church of St. Thomas Aquinas.
2) 4th Ave. @ Union St. - East side of 4th between Sackett and Union at the M, R & F subway station entrance in front of Maria's Mexican Bistro, 209 4th Ave. across from the Hess gas station.
3) Atlantic Ave. between 3rd & 4th Ave. - North side of Atlantic at bus shelter.
4) Tillary St. - Between Cadman Plaza East & West at H.J. sign near bus shelter.
Brooklyn Service Westbound Drop-off Locations: 1 Trip on Sundays
1) Cadman Plaza @ Clark St. - Bus stop shelter west side of street (Subway).
2) Court St. @ Joralemon St. - At bus stop west side of street (Subway).
3) Union St. @ 4th Ave. - At bus stop south side of street.
4) Prospect Park West & 2nd St. - At bus stop across from park entrance.
5) 9th St. & 4th Ave. - Bus stop in front of St. Thomas Aquinas Church (249 9th Street.)
6) Tillary St. - Between Cadman Plaza East & West at H.J. sign near bus shelter.
* On select trips, passengers may be required to transfer in Manorville.

To Brooklyn* (Westbound)

	MONTAUK LINE ⬇ READ DOWN AM LIGHT PM BOLD	Fri PM Only	Sun PM Only	NORTH FORK LINE	Sun PM Only
DEPARTING				Greenport	5:40
	Montauk	—	5:00	Southold	5:50
	Napeague	—	5:05	Peconic	5:55
	Amagansett	—	5:20	Cutchogue	6:00
	East Hampton	—	5:30	Mattituck	6:05
	Wainscott	—	5:40	Laurel	6:10
	Bridgehampton	—	5:50	Jamesport	6:15
	Water Mill	—	6:05	Aquebogue	6:20
	Southampton	2:00	6:15	Riverhead	6:25
	Manorville	—	6:40	Tanger Outlet	6:30
ARRIVING	B. Heights - Cadman Pl. & Clark St.	4:10	8:30	B. Heights	8:30
	B. Heights - Tillary St.	—	—	B. Heights	—
	B. Heights - Court St. & Joralemon St.	4:15	8:35	B. Heights	8:35
	Park Slope - Union St. & 4th Ave.	4:25	8:45	Park Slope	8:45
	Park Slope - Prospect Park W. & 2nd St.	4:30	8:50	Park Slope	8:50
	Park Slope - 9th St. & 4th Ave.	4:35	8:55	Park Slope	8:55

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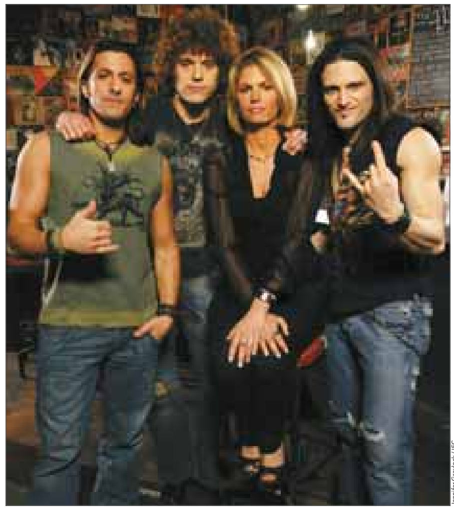
Scott Pasfield / IFC


Jennifer Graylock / IFC

Band on the run

Trio of Brooklyn musicians pursue fame in 'Z Rock'

Jennifer Graylock / IFC

Acting the part: (Top left) In the new show inspired by their lives, rock band ZO2 plays their own music. (Above) Comic Lynne Koplitz, pictured with drummer Joey Cassata, lead vocalist Paulie Z and bass guitarist David Z, plays ZO2's manager Dina, a merging of the personalities of real-life managers Bob Held and Lynn Lendway. (Inset) Dave Navarro (center) plays himself in episode 6, when he agrees to direct ZO2's video.

By Lisa J. Curtis
GO Brooklyn Editor

Three Brooklyn rockers — with a delicious double-life — are proving that there's a lot to laugh about when you're in pursuit of a record deal in their debut television series, "Z Rock."

Created by the Independent Film Channel, it's a fictionalized, semi-scripted series based on the band's Jekyll-and-Hyde conundrum as the Z Brothers — playing kids birthday parties by day — and ZO2, revving crowds into a frenzy with their straight-up rock 'n' roll by night.

The evident camaraderie and ribbing between real-life band members Paulie Z and David Z — who are also brothers — and drummer Joey Cassata will feel familiar to fans of HBO's "Entourage," in which an actor on his way to stardom — and his buddies — navigate the absurdities of doing business in Hollywood.

> **TV**
> "**Z Rock**" premieres Aug. 24 at 11:30 pm on the Independent Film Channel, with encores on Aug. 26 at 8:30 pm, Aug. 29 at 10:30 pm and Aug. 31 at 11 pm. For information about "Z Rock" and future ZO2 performances, visit www.ZO2.com.

"The ['Z Rock'] storyline is absolutely based on our real lives," said bass guitarist David. "Each episode is heavily detailed and scripted, and we fill in the blanks and ad lib the lines, like Larry David's 'Curb Your Enthusiasm' — but with rock 'n' roll enthusiasm."

In the first episode, which premieres Sunday, the band members promise to get to the next day's Z Brothers gig — playing a birthday party for the son of a coked-up music mogul — on time, but they are delayed by an irresistible liaison with some hot local moms after a successful ZO2 show at Park Slope's Southpaw.

In real life, the ZO2 members assured GO Brooklyn that they do have a second album out, "Ain't It Beautiful" — available on their Web site www.ZO2.com — and their days of playing kids parties are over.

"It was really only to fund ZO2," explained lead singer Paulie, who proudly sports an enormous Jew-fro. "There's no time or need to, now, unless Jessica Alba needs performers for her kid's party — and then we wouldn't want to be paid in money."

Another similarity between "Entourage" and "Z Rock" are the outlandish antics of the managers Ari (played by Jeremy Piven) and Dina (comedian Lynne Koplitz) who struggle to keep their clients — and keep them in line — while threatening to steal their respective shows.

In "Z Rock," Dina — who is a combination of ZO2's two real-life managers — shines in every wacky scenario, from encouraging her aunt — Joan Rivers! — to hire the band as her opening act at a casino, to enraging her yoga class by taking calls from the Z boys.

Like the TV show featuring The Monkees, "Z Rock" showcases a real band — "of goofballs" — who play original music, but that's where the similarities end, said Paulie.

"Those guys were put together for that show; Davey Jones was in theater, they weren't a band before that, and it wasn't a show about their lives," he said. "Their show had Monkees music, but most of wasn't theirs, it was written for them."

While The Monkees played pop music, ZO2's sound is akin to "modern day Led Zeppelin meets Audioslave with a little bit of Aerosmith sprinkled on top," summarized David.

Although the band is proudly Brooklyn born-and-bred, they say the borough doesn't offer enough venues that cater to their fans.

"We play straight-ahead, melodic hard rock, and there aren't that many places in Brooklyn — aside from Southpaw and an area in Williamsburg," said Paulie, who threw a party celebrating "Z Rock" at Staten Island's Lamour last weekend. "Lamour is more suited to our style, our fans."

After the 10-episode television series kicks off on Aug. 24, ZO2 will be reaching more fans with their music than they could ever entertain in clubs, so that was the attraction for the band when it came to re-hashing their kids-band past on the small screen.

"For us, the reason to do ['Z Rock'] is it's an amazing outlet for our music to be heard," explained David. "Radio is amazing, and TV is bigger than radio. If you see people like Gene Simmons and Bret Michaels, everyone knows who they are, because of their shows [A&E's 'Family Jewels' and VH1's 'Rock of Love']. Now everybody knows them by name."

"Z Rock" seems to be embraced by the rock community with cameos by Sebastian Bach (Skid Row) and Dave Navarro (Jane's Addiction, Red Hot Chili Peppers) as well as John Popper of Blues Traveler in a recurring role, but ZO2 is still awaiting the reviews of their sitcom from fans and the media. The band told GO Brooklyn that they're on board if there's an offer of a second season of "Z Rock" on the table.

"The guest stars we got were amazing," said David. "We were big fans of them, so on a personal level it was amazing. Hopefully, we'll have future seasons to have more. We had a great time."

MUSIC

Hot jazz

Enjoy a free jazz performance by the Charles Sibirsky Trio, while checking out the flavors of Park Slope's new Aji Bar and Lounge, on Thursday.

Named for the spicy Peruvian chile, the spot, which opened in May, serves up "street food" you might find on a stroll in Lima — with a sophisticated flair — while the trio will "be playing jazz standards as well as the music of Charlie Parker, Thelonius Monk, Lennie Tristano and originals," Sibirsky told GO Brooklyn.

As founder and director of Slope Music, Sibirsky — also a jazz pianist — is well known to his neighbors. Hopefully, Aji chef Piero Cespedes's name will also be on the tips of neighbors' tongues after they get their forks into his new fall menu — which will include a few entrees, too, according to owner Carlos Elias.

The Charles Sibirsky Trio will perform from 7:30 pm to 11:30 pm on Aug. 28 at Aji Bar and Lounge (287 Ninth St., between Fourth and Fifth avenues, in Park Slope). Free. For information, call (718) 832-0085 or visit www.ajibarlounge.com. ***— Lisa J. Curtis and Vince DiMiceli***

CINEMA

Rockin' Robins

We've all heard the beating of the drums at the south end of Prospect Park on a Sunday afternoon; now hear the story behind the music.

"The Other Side of the Water," by director and co-producer Jeremy Robins and co-producer Magali Damas, is a new documentary film that traces the origins of ancient Haitian rara music and explores its significance in the Haitian-American community through the eyes of the Brooklyn-based band DJARARA (pronounced JAH-RA-RA).

These young musicians use the roots music, which is controversial because it is affiliated with vodou, to address social issues that affect Haitian–Americans while promoting unity and change.

In this film, DJARARA tries to erase the negative stigma that has always been associated with the music, while embracing their heritage. Greenpoint resident Robins says that the objective of "The Other Side" — which took five years to complete — is to "present a nuanced, textured portrait [of Haitian culture]."

"The Other Side of the Water" will be screened on Aug. 28 at BAM Rose Cinemas (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene). Show times are 4:30 pm, 6:50 pm and 9:15 pm. Tickets are $11. For information, call (718) 636-4100 or visit www.bam.org. ***— Rabiyya Smith***

NIGHTLIFE

On reflection

There are no mirrors in Mirrors — yet. The Clinton Hill after-hours spot relies on its clientele for a self-portrait.

"The bar," said owner Michelle Allen (pictured), who lives nearby, "is a reflection of what the neighborhood is and is becoming."

The Brooklyn Paper / Jeff Bachner

Allen is referring to the influx of races and cultures that now, more frequently, populate the area. Watching her converse with every customer who enters, one would think that Mirrors has been around for quite some time, but it's just five months old. And, Allen is off to a "Grand" start, with karaoke Wednesdays and DJ Fridays.

After two years of battling landmark districting and permit issues, the space has finally "become a part of the community," Allen told GO Brooklyn. We'll toast to that — with a glass of their house-made white or red sangria.

Mirrors is located at 284 Grand Ave. at Lafayette Avenue in Clinton Hill. For more information, call (718) 622-2277. ***— Jason Brown***

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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

SATURDAY
August 23

Wax poetic

Today's "2008 Fort Greene Park Summer Literary Festival," MC'd by Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts' head Laurie Cumbo, pictured, features poet laureates past and present, such as Hal Sirowitz ("Mother Said, My Therapist Said").

3 pm. Rain or shine. Fort Greene Park's Monument Lawn. Enter at Washington Park at DeKalb Avenue in Fort Greene. Free. For information, call (718) 398-2883 or visit www.nywriterscoalition.org.

SUNDAY
August 24

Go USA!

It's the 232nd anniversary of the Battle of Brooklyn — but who's counting? You can meet these patriotic folks and talk about the American Revolution at today's commemoration ceremony at Green-Wood Cemetery. See battle re-enactment inside the main gate at 12:30 pm and more.

9:30 am. Green-Wood Cemetery, Fifth Avenue at 25th Street in Sunset Park. Free. For information, call (718) 852-8235 or visit oldstonehouse.org.

MONDAY
August 25

'Belle and whistles

Here's some info that will give you a "new attitude": Patti LaBelle will play a free concert in Brooklyn tonight! So feel free to put on "a new dress and new hat" because the last show of Borough President Markowitz's star-studded Martin Luther King, Jr. Concert Series promises to be a grand finale indeed.

7:30 pm. Wingate Field, Brooklyn Avenue at Winthrop Street in Crown Heights. Free. Seating is limited; bring a chair. For information, call (718) 222-0600 or visit www.brooklynconcerts.com.

THURSDAY
August 28

'Shining' moment

Carroll Gardens movie mogul Glenn Sanders celebrates his 500th Fresh Air Flicks event tonight with a screening of Stanley Kubrick's terrifying 1980 film "The Shining." The Jack Nicholson vehicle unspools at sundown in DUMBO's park, but show up as early as 6 pm to claim a spot on the grass and catch DJ Ayres spinning tunes.

6 pm. Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park, Main and Plymouth streets in DUMBO. Free. For information, call (718) 802-0603 or visit www.brooklynbridgepark.org.

FRIDAY
August 29

Walk the plank

This weekend is a three-day long birthday celebration for Brooklyn's floating concert hall. Tonight, as part of "Here and Now: A Labor Day Music Festival Celebrating Bargemusic's 30th Anniversary," the Voxare Quartet and others will perform works commissioned by Bargemusic.

8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River in DUMBO. $40, $15 students. For information, call (718) 624-2083 or visit www.bargemusic.org.

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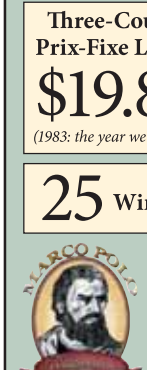

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NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Jay

Shoppin' and 'Street Talkin': Slick Rick will give a free performance as part of the outdoor Brooklyn Urban Arts Market in Clinton Hill on Aug. 24.

SAT, AUG 23

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

HOLDING DOWN THE FORT: Urban Park Rangers take a look at the fortifications in Fort Greene Park. 1 pm. Fort Greene Visitors Center, located at the top of the hill next to monument. Enter at Myrtle Avenue, or DeKalb Avenue at Washington Park. (718) 722-3218. **Free.**

BIRDING: 8 am. Salt Marsh Center, 3302 Avenue U. For more information call 311 and ask for the Urban Park Rangers. **Free.**

OPEN PADDLE: Row the boat. 9 am to noon. Paerdegat Basin, foot of Avenue N. (718) 241-3683. www.sebagocanoeclub.org. **Free.**

BIKE RIDE: Transportation Alternatives hosts a 10-mile ride around Williamsburg and Greenpoint. 9 am. Meet at McCarren Park at Bedford Avenue and Lorimer Street. (646) 873-6026. www.transalt.org/summerstreets. **Free.**

ROW THE BOAT: Red Hook Discovery Tour takes you on a little cruise. Help clean the shoreline after the tour. 1 pm to 5 pm. Louis Valentino Pier Park, end of Coffey Street, Red Hook. (917) 676-6458. **Free.**

PERFORMANCE

MUSICAL: Theater for the New City's Street Theater Company presents "It's the Economy Stupid! Or The Turning Point." 2 pm. Prospect Park Concert Grove. Enter park at Parkside and Ocean avenues. (212) 924-0496. **Free.**

ONE-ACT PLAY: Inner Act Productions presents Booty Candy: Gay Plays by Artists of Color. $20. 8 pm. South Oxford Space, 138 S. Oxford St. (718) 230-1323.

BARGEMUSIC: The Zukovsky Quartet performs classical music works by Schubert, Szymanowski and Boccherini. $40, $25 students. 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

OTHER

FLEA MARKET: at Church of the Holy Spirit. 9 am to 4 pm. 8117 Bay Parkway. (718) 837-0412.

BAG SALE: Still Hip, a children's resale boutique, hosts a bag sale on spring, summer and winter clothes. $15 for a bag you get to fill with all the clothes you can stuff in. 9:30 am. 283 Grand Ave. at Lafayette Avenue. (718) 398-0008.

MARKETING YOUR WORK: PowerHouse Books explains how to edit your work as well as the format, graphic design and production. $500, $350 students.10 am to 5 pm. 7 Main St. (212) 604-9074, ext. 105.

INDIE MARKET: Market offers handmade items such as jewelry by Wabisabi-Brooklyn, hats by Rocks and Salt, kids wear by Wonder Threads, and frocks by Melissa Bell. 11 am to 7 pm. Cobble Hill Park, Smith Street between Union and President streets. (347) 407-1187.

ART SHOW: Nature-inspired art show at the Salt Marsh Nature Center. 11 am to 4:30 pm. 3302 Ave. U. Call 311 for info. **Free.**

FEASTING FOR FREE: Learn the history of wild food gathering and find edible wild plants in Prospect Park. 2 pm to 5 pm. Fee required. Call to register. (718) 623-7220.

LITERARY FEST: Writers read. Featured authors are Amiri Baraka, Quincy Troupe, Louis Reyes Rivera and Hal Sirowitz with MC Laurie Cumbo. Music. 3 pm. Fort Greene Park, Visitors Center. Enter at Myrtle Avenue, or DeKalb Avenue at Washington Park. (718) 398-2883. **Free.**

PLAY BALL: Brooklyn Cyclones play the Lowell Spinners. $7 to $15. 6 pm. Keyspan Park, 1904 Surf Ave. (718) 449-8497.

SUN, AUG 24

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

BROOKLYN BRIDGE WALK: Big Onion Walking Tours takes a stroll across the Brooklyn Bridge and through the city's first suburb. Learn about the history, architecture and people of Brooklyn Heights. $15, $12 seniors and students. 1 pm. Meet at southeast corner of Broadway and Chambers Street, City Hall Park, lower Manhattan. (212) 439-1090.

COMMUNITY ROWING: The Gowanus Dredgers host a rowing and kayaking event at the park in DUMBO. No experience necessary; only requirement is that you know how to swim. 2 pm to 6 pm. Enter park at Main Street and the East River. (718) 802-0603 ext. 18. **Free.**

PERFORMANCE

URBAN ARTS MARKET: Shop locally at the open-air Brooklyn Urban Arts Market. 50 local artisans sell their wares. Noon to 8 pm. Also, music with Slick Rick with Band, The Eclectic Collective and Dub Trio. Myrtle Avenue between Grand Avenue and Emerson Street. For more info visit www.brooklynurbanartsmarket.ning.com or www.bam.org.

SPIRITUAL SONGS: Salt Marsh Nature Center presents singer Joe Ardigo. He performs songs from the soon-to-be released movie soundtracks the "Last Night in Brooklyn" and "The Big Catch." 4 pm. 3302 Ave. U. Bring your own chair. Call 311 for info. **Free.**

GOSPEL CONCERT: The Jacob Brothers perform. 6:30 pm. Norwegian Christian Home, 1270 67th St. (718) 238-2991. **Free.**

BARGEMUSIC: 4 pm. See Sat., Aug 23.

OTHER

BROOKLYN FLEA: The Flea, an artisan showcase, features vendors of vintage furniture, clothing and antiques alongside new designs by local makers of everything from jewelry to textiles. Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School, Lafayette Avenue between Clermont and Vanderbilt avenues. 10 am to 5 pm. www.brooklynflea.com.

ART SHOW: 11 am to 4:30 pm. See Sat., Aug 23.

MON, AUG 25

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY: Hibiscus Day Spa wants you to know how much they love you and hosts a barbecue. 2 pm until evening. 556 Halsey St. Call for info and RSVP.: (718) 573-0831.

MLK CONCERT SERIES: Borough President Marty Markowitz concludes the 26th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Concert Series. Tonight: Patti LaBelle. 7:30 pm. Wingate Field, entrances on Brooklyn Avenue, Rutland Road and Winthrop Street. (718) 222-0600. **Free.**

MONDAYS UNDER THE MOON: Film: "2001: A Space Odyssey." 8:30 pm. East River State Park; enter at Kent Avenue and North Eighth Street. (718) 222-0211. **Free.**

TUES, AUG 26

STORY CIRCLE: Older adults are invited to share memories. 11 am. Brooklyn Public Library's Mill Basin branch, 2385 Ralph Ave. (718) 241-3973. **Free.**

BUSINESS WORKSHOP: Church Avenue

See **9 DAYS** on page 10

CIVIC CALENDAR

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

Society of Old Brooklynites. Ceremony at the Prison Ship Martyrs Monument. On the agenda: Lecture by Barnet Schecter, author of "The Battle for New York: The City at the Heart of the American Revolution." Fort Greene Park (Myrtle Avenue, between Washington Park and St. Francis Street), 10 am. Call (718) 833-4928 for info.

SUNDAY, AUG. 24

Battle of Brooklyn in Green-Wood Cemetery. Events include a trolley tour (10 am), a re-enactment (12:30 pm), a parade (1:30 pm) and a memorial ceremony (2 pm). Green-Wood Cemetery (Fifth Avenue at 25th Street). Call (718) 852-8235 for info.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 27

Battle of Brooklyn anniversary. Day-long events at the Old Stone House (321 Fifth Avenue, between Third and Fourth streets, in Park Slope). Call (718) 768-4329 or visit www.theoldstonehouse.org for info.

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Newsroom@BrooklynPaper.com

B'nai Avraham Open House

Come Meet the Family!

On Saturdays, September 6th & 13th Congregation B'nai Avraham in Brooklyn Heights will open its doors to all who wish to pray, learn and celebrate with us.

Experience a community dedicated to providing a warm, spiritual, educational and nurturing environment, where everyone feels welcome and comfortable as together we celebrate the joy and beauty of our Jewish heritage.

Children's Program at 11:15am
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Rabbi Aaron Raskin's Sermon at 11:30 am
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September 6th – The King is in the Field
September 13th – Serving G-d with Joy

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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

Merchants Business Association hosts a talk: "Surviving Debt and Rebuilding Your Credit." 3 pm to 5:30 pm. 884 Flatbush Ave. (718) 282-2500. **Free.**

WINE TASTING: Bourbon/ cheese pairing workshop. Cheeses from Murray's. $65. 6:30 pm to 8 pm. LeNell's, 416 Van Brunt St. between Coffey and Van Dyke streets. Pre-registration necessary. (718) 360-0838.

WATERFRONT WORKOUT: The Fitness Guru returns to kick butt. Today: Pilates Mat Class. 7 pm to 8 pm. Registration begins at 6:30 pm. Boardwalk, Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park, enter at New Dock Street and Water streets in DUMBO. www.brooklynbridgepark.org. **Free.**

WEDS, AUG 27

RED FLAG WEDNESDAY: Atlantic Avenue Local Development Corporation hosts promotions, special events and discounts. 10 am to midnight. Atlantic Avenue between Hicks Street and Fourth Avenue. (718) 243-1414.

OPEN PADDLE: Row the boat. 5:30 pm. Paerdegat Basin, foot of Avenue N. (718) 241-3683. www.sebagocanoeclub.org. **Free.**

PLAY BALL: Brooklyn Cyclones play the Oneonta Tigers. $7 to $15. 7 pm. Keyspan Park, 1904 Surf Ave. (718) 449-8497.

MUSICAL TRIBUTE: Soprano Caroline Worra, of the American Opera Project, performs a musical tribute to Brooklyn's first poet: Walt Whitman. 7 pm. The North Meadow, northeast corner of Fort Greene Park, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Place. (718) 222-1461. **Free.**

THURS, AUG 28

PHILOSOPHY DISCUSSION: Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch offers the topic: "Philosophy and the Political World." Room 214. 2 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100. **Free.**

DOCUMENTARY: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "The Other Side of the Water," a documentary about the 20-year journey of music, spirituality and activism in the Haitian-American community. Story is told through they eyes of a roots-based walking band in Brooklyn. $11. 4:30 pm, 6:50 pm and 9:15 pm. 30 Lafayette St. Afterparty at Frank's Lounge. $10. Call for info. (917) 501-1502.

CELLAR TO ATTIC TOUR: Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum hosts a tour with docent Lucie Chin. 5 pm to 7 pm. 5816 Clarendon Road at Ralph Avenue. (718) 629-5400. **Free.**

BIKE TO THE MOVIES: Time's Up hosts a ride. Two meet-up spots: 7 pm at Union Square South (Manhattan) or 7:45 pm at the Manhattan side of the Brooklyn Bridge. Ride ends at the Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy's outdoor movie night. Film "The Shining." (See "Movies with a View" below.)

MOVIES WITH A VIEW: The Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy presents a screening of "The Shining." Movie is preceded by a short. Also, DJ spins and dinners for sale. 6 pm to 11 pm. On the lawn of the Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park, Main and Plymouth streets. www.brooklynbridgepark.org. **Free.**

ARTS REGRANT PROGRAM: Brooklyn Arts Council invites artists to learn about available funding. 6 pm to 8 pm. Shoreline YM-YWHA of Brighton-Manhattan Beach, 3300 Coney Island Ave. (718) 625-0080. **Free.**

ARTS REGRANT PROGRAM: Brooklyn Arts Council invites art organizations to learn about available funding. 6 pm to 8 pm. Pratt Institute, ARC Building, 200 Willoughby Ave. in Fort Greene. (718) 625-0080. **Free.**

PLAY BALL: Brooklyn Cyclones play the Oneonta Tigers. $7 to $15. 7 pm. Keyspan Park, 1904 Surf Ave. (718) 449-8497.

TWILIGHT TOUR: Take a tour of Prospect Park. Start out with a ride on the electric boat Independence, followed by a guided exploration of the park's nature trails and a chance to meet bats. $25. 7 pm to 9 pm. Wine and cheese reception. Audubon Center, Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue. Reservations necessary. (718) 287-3400, ext. 114.

LAWN CHAIR THEATER: Adventure night with the Urban Park Rangers. Screening of "National Treasure." 7:30 pm. Salt Marsh Nature Center, 3302 Ave. U. Call 311 for info. **Free.**

BURLESQUE SHOW: Fredini and Bambi presents "Burlesque at the Beach." Tonight, Sequinette's Love Muscle. $15. 10 pm. (718) 372-5159. www.coneyisland.com.

FRI, AUG 29

METRO CARD: Mobile staff assists those who are eligible — senior citizens aged 65 and older and people with disabilities — in obtaining reduced fare MetroCards. 10 am to noon. Assemblyman William Colton's Community Office, 155 Kings Highway, between West 12th and West 13th streets. (718) 236-1598.

PLAY BALL: Brooklyn Cyclones play the Oneonta Tigers. $7 to $15. 7 pm. Fireworks follow game. Keyspan Park, 1904 Surf Ave. (718) 449-8497.

Heavenly theme: "Mondays Under the Moon" presents "2001: A Space Odyssey" on Aug. 25 at the East River State Park in Williamsburg.

BARGEMUSIC: Labor Day music festival celebrates Bargemusic's 30th anniversary. Program features works commissioned by Bargemusic. $40, $15 students. 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

BURLESQUE SHOW: Fredini and Bambi presents "Burlesque at the Beach." $15. 10 pm. (718) 372-5159. www.coneyisland.com.

SAT, AUG 30

Labor Day Weekend

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

OPEN PADDLE: Row the boat. 9 am to noon. Paerdegat Basin, foot of Avenue N. (718) 241-3683. www.sebagocanoeclub.org. **Free.**

ROW THE BOAT: Explore the Gowanus estuary and discover the canal's mix of wildlife and urban waterway infrastructure. Following the trip, help collect trash on the shoreline. 1 pm to 5 pm. Meet at the end of Second Street, off Bond Street, Gowanus. (718) 802-0603. www.brooklynbridgepark.org. **Free.**

AND HOWE: Urban Park Rangers explain how Richard and William Howe commanded the naval and land forces of the Crown during the NY campaign of the Revolution. 1 pm. Fort Greene Park, Visitors Center. Enter at Myrtle Avenue, or DeKalb Avenue at Washington Park. (718) 722-3218. **Free.**

BIRDING BY EAR: Urban Park Rangers teach you how to use your eyes and ears to bird watch. 1 pm. Salt Marsh Nature Center, 3302 Ave. U. Call 311 for info. **Free.**

PERFORMANCE

BARGEMUSIC: Labor Day music festival celebrates Bargemusic's 30th anniversary. Program features works commissioned by Bargemusic. $40, $15 students. 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

OTHER

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER: Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation hosts its annual event. $25 in advance. 9 am to 2 pm. 1368 Fulton St. (718) 270-4880.

COOKING LESSONS: Learn how to cook African-French cuisine. $50 per person. Class from 10 am to noon and again from noon to 2 pm. Toukouleur Restaurant, 1116 Bedford Ave. www.letoukouleur.com. (718) 622-0607.

INDIE MARKET: Market offers handmade items such as jewelry by Wabisabi-Brooklyn, hats by Rocks and Salt, kids wear by Wonder Threads, and frocks by Melissa Bell. 11 am to 7 pm. Smith Street between Union and President streets. (347) 407-1187.

SUN, AUG 31

OUTDOORS

ORIENTEERING: Urban Park Rangers show you how to use a compass to find your way around Owls Head Park. 1 pm. Meet at Parkhouse at Colonial Road. Call 311 for info. **Free.**

PERFORMANCE

BARGEMUSIC: 4 pm. See Sat., Aug. 30.

OTHER

BROOKLYN FLEA: The Flea, an artisan showcase, features vendors of vintage furniture, clothing and antiques alongside new designs by local makers of everything from jewelry to textiles. Bishop Loughlin Memorial HS, Lafayette Avenue between Clermont and Vanderbilt avenues. 10 am to 5 pm. www.brooklynflea.com.

WOMEN OF THE REVOLUTION: Urban Park Rangers recognize the contributions of women in American history. 10 am. Meet at the Fort Greene Visitor Center. Enter at Myrtle Avenue, or DeKalb Avenue at Washington Park. Call 311 for info. **Free.**

PLAY BALL: Brooklyn Cyclones play the Hudson Valley Renegades. $7 to $15. 5 pm. Keyspan Park, 1904 Surf Ave. (718) 449-8497.

LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in **Nine Days In Brooklyn**, please give us two weeks notice or more. Send your listing by e-mail: calendar@brooklynpaper.com; by mail: GO Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201; or by fax: (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

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Position
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Shea Stadium

What I do at FreshDirect:
I started here three years ago, and I've always worked in catering. Now there's nine people on my team. Before FreshDirect I spent 20 years in the food industry working with places like American Express, doing catering, working at a steakhouse...

What I love about my job:
Making the platters. You get to express yourself with the food. All the platters have set patterns, but every now and then you get to put a little extra touch in there. I make sure everything's in just the right place.

In my community:
My wife and I have two kids, one boy and one girl, and we're active at our church in East Flatbush. I lead the children's choir. It's a bunch of kids from 3 to 12 years old. I love it. I've been singing at church from the first time I can remember.

BROOKLYN Nightlife

Compiled by Chiara V. Cowan

BAY RIDGE

The Salty Dog
7509 Third Ave. at 75th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 238-9260, www.saltydogbar.com
Fridays, Saturdays: Live DJs, 9 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Karaoke Night, 9 pm, FREE; **Aug. 28:** Live band, "Dandelion," 10 pm, FREE.

The Wicked Monk
8415 Fifth Ave. at 84th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 921-0601, www.wickedmonk.com.
Aug. 23: Ghost of Eden, 8 pm, $5, Almost Famous, 11 pm, $5; **Aug. 24:** Jerry Farley Showcase, 10 pm, $5; **Aug. 28:** Twisted Thursdays with DJ Tony Bobo, 10 pm, Nigel's Fault, 11 pm, $5; **Aug. 29:** Kai, Grace and Taryn's Birthdays with Driven Blind, 11 pm, $5.

BEDFORD-STUYVESANT

bushbaby
1197 Fulton St. at Bedford Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 636-5536, www.myspace.com/bushbabyinc.
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays: The Liquorless Lounge, 5 pm, FREE; **Aug. 23:** Brain Jackson (Jazz, Funk and Soul), 9 pm, $7.

Solomon's Porch
307 Stuyvesant Ave. at Halsey Street in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 919-8001, www.myspace.com/solomonsporchcafe.
Fridays: Friday Night Jazz with The Jeff King Band, 9 pm, 11 pm, $5; **Aug. 23:** "Audiotherapy Live," a celebration of the release of Rob Murat's new album "So Much to Say," 8 pm, $10; **Aug. 28:** Fundraiser, "Musicians for Obama" featuring Patrizia Ferrara, Jeff Smith, Annekei Carla, Tarrah Reynolds, David Pilgram, Shelley Nicole, Jeff Jeudy and Shawn Randall, hosted by Jermaine Spradley, 8 pm, $10.

BOERUM HILL

Deity
368 Atlantic Ave. at Hoyt Street in Boerum Hill, (718) 222-3692, www.deityny.com.
Sundays: Gypsy Sundays featuring burlesque dancers, drag queens, belly dancers, LGBT recording artists and more, hosted by Scandelle, 7 pm, FREE; **Thursdays:** "Bi-Polar Thursdays" with Ali Shaheed Muhammad (of A Tribe Called Quest and Lucy Pearl), 10 pm, $5 before midnight, $10 after midnight; **Aug. 23:** (Lounge) Brooklyn Bounce featuring DJ Dundee (Electro, Funk, World), (Cellar) DJ Boof (Hip-hop), Time TBD, $TBD.

Hank's Saloon
46 Third Ave. at Atlantic Avenue in Boerum Hill, (718) 625-8003, www.exitfive.com/hankssaloon.
Sundays: Jam Band Sundays, 5 pm, FREE; **Mondays:** Live band kuntry karaoke, 10 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Live band "Rockstar Karaoke," 9:30 pm, FREE; **Aug. 23:** Barnyard Brothers, 9 pm, Paleface, 10 pm, Bombadil, 11 pm, FREE; **Aug. 26:** Yes Mister Blood Vessel, 9:30 pm, Landing Project, 10:30 pm, Reason to Rebel, 11:30 pm, FREE; **Aug. 29:** The Hecklers, 9 pm, The Spines, 10 pm, Imaginary Icons, 11 pm, FREE.

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Last Exit
136 Atlantic Ave. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-9198, www.lastexitbar.com.
Saturdays: "Kayo's Knockout," DJ Kayo's booty-shakin', jam-jumpin', all night get down party, 10 pm, FREE; **Aug. 28:** Sugartown with Colleen Crumbcake, 10 pm, FREE.

CLINTON HILL

Five Spot Restaurant
459 Myrtle Ave. at Washington Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 852-0202, www.fivespotsoulfood.com.
Saturdays: DJ Aki, 7 pm, FREE; **Mondays:** RPM-Open Turntables hosted by DJ Copa (bring your own needles and vinyl), 8 pm, FREE; **Tuesdays:** 5 for Funny Tuesdays hosted by Dave Lester, 10 pm, $5; **Wednesdays:** Open Mic with Nate Jones and Da Feal, 9 pm, $5 ($10 after 10 pm); **Aug. 23:** DJ Kenny Parker (of KRS-1), Midnight, $5; **Aug. 29:** "Brooklyn Mecca" with DJ Sabine, Midnight, $5.

Sputnik
262 Taaffe Pl. at DeKalb Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 398-6666, www.barsputnik.com.
Saturdays: DJ Ralph, 9 pm, FREE; **Thursdays:** DJ Evil Dee of the Beatminerz, 8 pm, FREE; **Aug. 24:** Big Time Entertainment presents Ben Ruttenburg, Kuru and the Shameless Panda, Fearless Vampire, Killers, Down by My Sins, Dying on a Full Moon, Multi-Dementional Spectacular, Sofmoure, Sister Helen, 6:15 pm, $8 in advance, $10 day of the show.

CONEY ISLAND

Cha Cha's
Boardwalk at Stillwell Avenue in Coney Island, (718) 946-1305, www.chachasofconeyisland.com.
Aug. 23: NATEKid, 8 pm, $5; **Aug. 24:** NATEKid, 8 pm, $5; **Aug. 29:** The 2nd Annual Coney Island Rockabilly & Burlesque Festival, Time TBD, $TBD.

Lewis 'Love'-fest: On Wednesday, Park Slope's Union Hall hosts "Do You Believe in Love?," a Brooklyn salute to Huey Lewis with performances by Graham Smith, The Gimme 5, The Hecklers, Michael Leviton, The Strung Out String Band and more.

DUMBO

Galapagos Art Space
16 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500, www.galapagosartspace.com.
Aug. 27: PUNCH Puppet Slam presents "The Best of PUNCH," 8 pm, $7.

FLATBUSH

Vox Pop
1022 Cortelyou Rd. at Stratford Road in Flatbush, (718) 940-2084, www.voxpopnet.net.
Sundays: Open mic, 7 pm, FREE with 2-drink/snack minimum; **Aug. 23:** The Respectful Prostitute, 10 pm, FREE with 2-drink/snack minimum; **Aug. 27:** J'Iro, 8:30 pm, FREE with 2-drink/snack minimum; **Aug. 28:** Open Mic Presents... (favorite past performers), 8 pm, FREE with 2-drink/snack minimum; **Aug. 29:** Jazz Jam, 5 pm, Keith Un-Complicated, 9 pm, FREE with 2-drink/snack minimum.

FORT GREENE

Lox Lounge
15 Putnam Ave. at Grand Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 930-1316, www.reggaesundays.com.
Sundays: Revival Reggae Sundays featuring DJs Silence, Jase, and Natural Mystik, 9 pm, FREE for ladies and reduced with RSVP for gentlemen before midnight, $10 after midnight; **Aug. 24:** International Reggae Night, 9 pm, FREE with RSVP before midnight, $10 after midnight.

Tillie's
248 DeKalb Ave. at Vanderbilt Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 783-6140, www.tilliesofbrooklyn.com.
Aug. 29: Nick Noir, 7 pm, FREE.

GOWANUS

Issue Project Room
232 Third St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 330-0313, www.issueprojectroom.org.
Aug. 23: Asher Thal-Nir, Brendan Murray, Richard Garet, 8 pm, $10; **Aug. 28:** Jozef Van Wissum, Woody Sullender & Katt Hernandez Duo, 8 pm, $10; **Aug. 29:** Mario Diaz de Leon, Jay King, Zeljko McMullen, 8 pm, $10.

GREENPOINT

Club Europa
99 Meserole Ave. at Manhattan Avenue in Greenpoint, (718) 383-5723, www.europaclub.com or www.europalive.net.
Saturdays: VIP Dance Party, 10 pm, FREE before 10:30 pm, $15 after 10:30 pm; **Tuesdays:** Karaoke Night, 8 pm, FREE; **Fridays:** Sexy Progressive/Dance Party, 10 pm, FREE before 10:30 pm, $15 after 10:30 pm; **Aug. 24:** Doomriders, Celebrity Murders, Acid Tiger, Howl, Shred Beauty, 7 pm, $10; **Aug. 27:** Terror, Warriors, Death Before Dishonor, CDC, Trapped Under Ice, 6 pm, $12.

PARK SLOPE

Aji
287 Ninth St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 832-0085, www.ajibarlounge.com.
Aug. 27: Edwin Vazquez, 9 pm, FREE; **Aug. 28:** Charles Sibirsky, 7 pm, FREE; **Aug. 29:** Forro Dodi (Za Mauricio), 10 pm, FREE.

Barbes
376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com.
Tuesdays: Slavic Soul Party, 9 pm, $10; **Aug. 23:** Jon de Lucia, 6 pm, $10 suggested donation, Paraguay Lo-Fi, 8 pm, $10 suggested donation, One Ring Zero, 10 pm, $10 suggested donation; **Aug. 24:** Ben Holmes, 7 pm, $10 suggested donation, Stephane Wrembel, 9 pm, $10 suggested donation; **Aug. 25:** The Clarinets, 7 pm, $10 suggested donation, Dewanatron, 9:30 pm, $10 suggested donation; **Aug. 26:** Jenny Scheinman, 7 pm, $10 suggested donation; **Aug. 27:** "Stochastic Brooklyn" curated by FMU's Bethany Ryker featuring Christopher Meeder performing Ursonata, 8 pm, $10, Extrafolie Duo, 9 pm, $10, Little Women, 10 pm, $10; **Aug. 28:** The Oscar Noriega Trio, 8 pm, $10 suggested donation, Samurindo, 10 pm, $10 suggested donation; **Aug. 29:** Dana Falconberry, 8 pm, $10 suggested donation, The Mandingo Ambassadors, 10 pm, $10 suggested donation, Bill Malchow, Midnight, $10 suggested donation.

Brooklyn Lyceum
227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816, www.gowanus.com.
Sundays: Jazz on Sundays curated by Chris Komer, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, $10 per set; **Aug. 24:** Zach Brock, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, $10 per set; **Aug. 27:** Cortelyou Composers Collective, 8 pm, 9:30 pm, $10 per set.

Cafe Steinhof
427 Seventh Ave. at 14th Street in Park Slope, (718) 369-7776, www.cafesteinhof.com.
Aug. 27: Ripple Road Band, 10:30 pm, FREE.

Southpaw
125 Fifth Ave. at St. John's Place in Park Slope, (718) 230-0236, www.spsounds.com.
Aug. 23: The Wood Bros, Carsie Blanton, 8 pm doors, 9 pm show, $15; **Aug. 24:** 12 Hour Shift, Stephanie Rooker, Rhen, 8 pm doors, 9 pm show, $10; **Aug. 28:** Hot Peas and Butta, DJs Cash Money & Sterne Richards, 9 pm, $7; **Aug. 29:** The Vestias, 8 pm doors, 9:30 pm show, $10.

Tea Lounge
837 Union St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 789-2762, www.tealounge.com.
Mondays: Monday Nights with Mike Gamble, 8 pm, $5 suggested donation; **Aug. 27:** Magnum Trio, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, $5 suggested donation; **Aug. 28:** Whoopie Power, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, $5 suggested donation; **Aug. 29:** The Dymaxion Quartet, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, $5 suggested donation.

The Royale
506 Fifth Ave. at 12th Street in Park Slope, (718) 840-0089, www.royalebrooklyn.com.
Aug. 23: Afrokinetic presents "Brooklyn Bridges" with DJs Chris Annibell & Amon, 11 pm, FREE; **Aug. 27:** Ted Steal presents "Get Saloon," a Roots Metal Party, 10 pm, FREE.

Two Boots Brooklyn
514 Second St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 499-3253, www.twobootsbrooklyn.com.
Tuesdays: Judd Neilsen's Organ Trio and Jam Session, 9 pm, FREE; **Aug. 23:** Big Dumb Animal, 10 pm, FREE; **Aug. 29:** The Moonlighters, 10 pm, FREE.

Union Hall
(Downstairs at) 702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhallny.com.
Aug. 23: EP release show featuring The Mugs, The Lovely Sparrows, 8 pm, $8, Saturday Night Karaoke Club, 11 pm, FREE; **Aug. 24:** Ruby Isle, The Buddy System, Last Year's Model, 7:30 pm, $8; **Aug. 25:** Brooklyn Songwriters' Exchange with Maia McDonald, Rebecca Pronsky and Jan Chapin, 7:30 pm, $8; **Aug. 26:** Sudden Death Game Show hosted by Dick Swizzle, 8 pm, $5 to play, FREE to watch; **Aug. 27:** "Do You Believe in Love?," Brooklyn Salutes Huey Lewis with performances by Graham Smith, The Gimme 5, The Hecklers, Michael Leviton, The Strung Out String Band, and more, 7:30 pm, $7; **Aug. 28:** Turbomonics, Big Bang TV, El Jazel, 7:30 pm, $8; **Aug. 29:** Mozel Motal, 8 pm, $8.

PROSPECT HEIGHTS

The Backroom
(At Freddy's) 485 Dean St. at Sixth Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 622-7035, www.freddysbackroom.com.
Aug. 23: Country Music Night featuring Baby Pool, 9 pm, FREE; **Aug. 24:** Liza and the Wonderwheels, 3 pm, Mob Scene, 11 pm, FREE; **Aug. 26:** Music from the New York Underground, 8:30 pm, FREE; **Aug. 27:** Marissa Hanson, 9 pm, FREE; **Aug. 28:** Uni and her Ukelele, 9 pm, FREE; **Aug. 29:** Jesse Alejandro, 10 pm, Karl Walters Trio, 11 pm, FREE.

RED HOOK

Jalopy
315 Columbia St. at Woodhull Street in Red Hook, (718) 395-3214, www.jalopy.biz.
Mondays: Country Blues Jam, 9 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Roots 'n' Ruckus, a night of folk, old-time and blues, 9:30 pm, FREE; **Aug. 24:** Ye Oldie Folk Singer Tony McGrath, 5 pm, FREE; **Aug. 29:** Will Scott, 9 pm, Jan Ball, 10:30 pm, $10.

Rocky Sullivan's
34 Van Dyke St. at Dwight Street in Red Hook, (718) 246-8050, www.rockysullivans.com.
Saturdays: Seanchai and The Unity Squad, 9 pm, FREE; **Sundays:** Sean Kershaw & The Terrible Two, 1 pm, FREE; **Mondays:** The Trad Sounds of Chris Byrne and Andrew Harkin, 8:30 pm, FREE; **Tuesdays:** Live jazz, 7 pm, FREE; **Wednesdays:** Soul Night with Sugartime, 9 pm; **Thursdays:** Pub Quiz with host Scott M.X. Turner, 8:30 pm, FREE.

WILLIAMSBURG

Music Hall of Williamsburg
66 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 486-5400, www.musichallofwilliamsburg.com.
Aug. 24: Heloise & The Savoir Faire, Project Jenny/Project Jan, Boy Crisis, 6:30 pm, FREE; **Aug. 26:** Dr. Dog, Senator R. Stevie Moore, 8:30 pm, $16 in advance, $16 day of the show; **Aug. 28:** The Gourds, Kings County Caravan, $15 in advance, $17 day of the show.

Sound Fix Records
110 Bedford Ave. at North 11th Street in Williamsburg, (718) 388-8090, www.soundfixrecords.com.
Mondays: JezebelMusic.com presents "Songfair," an open mic, 6:30 pm, FREE; **Thursdays:** Max Silvestri, Gabe & Jenny, 8 pm, FREE; **Aug. 24:** Quiet Noise, 7 pm, FREE; **Aug. 28:** Big Terrific with Max, Gabe and Jenny, 8 pm, FREE.

http://

For more Brooklyn Nightlife options, see our listings at **BrooklynPaper.com/Nightlife**

TALK TO US...

To list your events in **Brooklyn Nightlife**, please give us as much notice as possible. Include name of venue, address with cross street, phone number for the public to call, Web site address, dates, times and admission or ticket prices. Send listings and color photos of performers via e-mail to Nightlife@BrooklynPaper.com or via fax at (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

The listings are correct as of press time. Contact the venue before you go to confirm event details.

BROOKLYN Bites

Neighborhood Dining Guide

This week: **PARK SLOPE'S FIFTH AVENUE**

The Brooklyn Paper file / Gregory P. Mango

Relaxed Tempo: Friends gather at Tempo Restaurant and Wine Bar in Park Slope, where chef Michael Fiore serves up Mediterranean-inspired cuisine.

Bierkraft

191 Fifth Ave. at Union Street, (718) 230-7600, www.bierkraft.com (AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa).

Walk into this gourmet shop and you'll be surrounded by more than 900 kinds of beer. As members of the American Cheese Society, Bierkraft's owners are also very particular about the 275 cheeses they stock, most made by small producers. The selection of fresh breads and chocolates from around the world are ingredients for distinctive gift baskets, too. Seasonal beer and cheese tastings are offered on designated Tuesdays between May and October. Open Monday through Thursday, from 11:30 am to 8:30 pm, Fridays, 11 am to 9 pm, Saturdays, from 11 am to 9 pm, and Sundays, from 11 am to 8 pm.

Convivium Osteria

68 Fifth Ave. at St. Marks Avenue, (718) 857-1833 (AmEx) Entrees: $13–$26. ★

Since 2000, Convivium Osteria has offered Park Slope a welcoming, rustic dining room in which to enjoy Mediterranean cuisine at communal tables. Chef and owner Carlo Pulisi combines the flavors of Spain, Portugal and Italy in Convivium Osteria's menu. Among the highlights are the seafood tapas for two, 40-ounce rib eye for two ($74), and Vermont quails with figs and "boquerones" (pickled anchovies). For dessert, there's "crema Catalana," a Spanish version of creme brulee. Garden seating available, too. Open daily for dinner.

Long Tan

194-196 Fifth Ave. at Union Street, (718) 622-8444, www.long-tan.com (MC, Visa) Entrees: $8-$16. ★

Long Tan, which opened in 2001, is a friendly and relaxed Thai restaurant where comfy cushions in vibrant colors line an open, white dining room dotted with hanging paper lanterns. Chef Jeff Hardinger serves up appetizers such as "samurai-spiked" crab cakes with "mizuna" salad (mixed greens with citrus mango and lemon vinaigrette) and the pad Thai spring roll salad. For entrees, the restaurant's signature dishes include a yellow curry of butternut squash, three-flavored snapper, and duck with tamarind sauce. At Long Tan's red bar, enjoy sassy cocktails and wines from Australia and New Zealand, which make the restaurant a favorite spot for wine enthusiasts. Long Tan also offers takeout, delivery and catering. Open daily for dinner.

Melt

440 Bergen St. at Fifth Avenue, (718) 230-5925, www.meltnyc.com (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: $14-$23. ★

Open since June 2005, Melt serves up New American classics by chef Patrik Landberg (formerly of Ulrika's and the Roger Smith Hotel). Among Landberg's signature dishes are the Kobe beef burger; grilled, all-natural black Angus skirt steak; pine nut and basil-crusted North Atlantic salmon; and pan-roasted hake fish served with chorizo sausage, grilled corn and clam foam. Enjoy them in Melt's sleek, contemporary dining room with a view out of the large front windows or into the open kitchen. On Tuesday nights, Melt offers a $25, five-course tasting menu (and a $20 wine tasting to complement the food tasting). Open daily for dinner, and for brunch on weekends, from 11 am to 4 pm.

★= *Full review available at* **BrooklynPaper.com**

Abbreviation Key: *AmEx= American Express, DC= Diner's Club, Disc= Discover Card, MC= MasterCard, Visa= Visa Card*

Miriam

79 Fifth Ave. at Prospect Place, (718) 622-2250, www.miriamrestaurant.com (AmEx, DC, Disc, Visa) Entrees: $14.50-$24. ★

Rafael Hasid named his restaurant in honor of his mother, and it's where he offers contemporary Israeli cuisine, a global mix with culinary traditions from Eastern Europe to South America. Yet, in this light-colored space, the atmosphere is recognizably Middle Eastern, filled with elegant glass lamps that cast soft light on the diners. At Miriam, Hasid (who also owns Hill Diner in Cobble Hill) offers Mediterranean salad, with avocado and spring veggies wrapped in eggplant strips and topped with feta; moussaka; and chicken "shawarma," accented with mango chutney and green tahini. For dessert, there is always the "malabi," custard topped with rose syrup, pistachios and coconut flakes. Miriam offers beer and wine, which is half-price on Mondays and Tuesdays. Open daily for dinner. Brunch is served on weekends, from 10 am to 4 pm.

Mura

369 Fifth Ave. at Fifth Street, (718) 965-1288, www.muranyc.com (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: $2-$20.

Open since March 2007, Mura is a Japanese sushi restaurant providing its customers with an array of choices from their kitchen and sushi bar. According to manager Maggie, their chef is very selective. "He tries to make everything into art," she told GO Brooklyn. Some of the more popular appetizers — from the kitchen — are the "rock shrimp tempura" and the "hot combination" which consists of calamari, rock shrimp, oyster tempura and "harumaki." According to Maggie, customers are also wild about the smoked eel with avocado and the "trio tartar" which includes tuna, yellowtail and salmon with "tobiko" from the sushi bar. Open Monday through Saturday for lunch and dinner and Sundays, from 4:30 pm to 11 pm.

Nana

155 Fifth Ave. at St. John's Place, (718) 230-3749, www.nanaparkslope.com (Cash only) Entrees: $8-$15.

Helen Chen is the proprietor of this pan-Asian venture with "modern industrial" decor. The menu features Japanese-Thai fusion entrees like Thai basil soft shell crab with green chili and lemongrass. On weekends, the bar scene picks up with a DJ spinning house music on Fridays and Saturdays. Nana's can be rented for parties and offers a customized food and beverage menu. The dining room seats 60 with an additional 50 seats on the patio. Open daily for dinner and for lunch and dinner on Sundays.

Piramide

499 Fifth Ave. at 12th Street, (718) 499-0002, www.mexpiramide.com (AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: $7-$20. ★

According to their menu, they're "the next best thing to Mexico night in Park Slope." Open since November 2007, Piramide serves lunch and dinner daily, and brunch on the weekends. Customer favorites include the fresh guacamole, which is prepared tableside and the "molcajete nortene" (a lava rock dish) that consists of grilled steak and shrimp mixed with poblano peppers with a side of rice and beans and corn tortillas. They also have "steak night" on Thursdays when Black Angus steaks are only $15 and all wine is 50 percent off.

Press 195

195 Fifth Ave. at Union Street, (718) 857-1950 (Cash only) Entrees: $8-$11.

What happens when two long-time college friends with a fetish for wacky sandwiches unite? Since June 2002, Brian Karp and Chris Evans have turned their obsession into a business of eclectic pressed sandwiches. The restaurant seats 25 guests inside and 35 outside in the garden, weather permitting. The garden "looks like you're in your own backyard," said Karp. Inside, the walls are painted a bright yellow, and there's plenty of elbowroom between tables. "I call it modern comfort," says Karp of his shop's decor. Thirty hot pressed sandwiches are offered on ciabatta bread or available in a wrap, as well as a "create your own sandwich" option for those who are more unconventional. Open Monday through Thursday, from 11:30 am to 10 pm; Friday and Saturday, from noon to 11 pm; and Sundays, from noon to 10 pm.

Stone Park Cafe

324 Fifth Ave. at Third Street, (718) 369-0082, www.stoneparkcafe.com (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: $19-$24. ★

This contemporary American restaurant, which opened in September 2004, is owned by Josh Foster, who worked at Tribeca Grill, and chef-owner Josh Grinker, formerly of the River Cafe. The restaurant, with both a full bar and a sidewalk cafe, offers a menu for adults and for kids. While your five-year-old is enjoying his pizza bagels or penne pasta, you can savor such dishes as Australian rack of lamb with Merguez caponata, rosemary potato cake and shallot red wine reduction or roasted Giannone Farms chicken with pearl barley, currants, dill, roasted garlic and pan juices. Also, make use of that full bar. Open for dinner Monday through Sunday, and brunch on weekends, from 10:30 am to 3 pm.

Tempo Restaurant and Wine Bar

256 Fifth Ave. at Carroll Street, (718) 636-2020, www.tempobrooklyn.com (AmEx, DC, MC, Visa) Entrees: $17–$30. ★

Boasting cream-colored stucco walls and crushed silk draperies, Tempo is a sophisticated yet comfortable restaurant, perfect for romantic tete-a-tetes and family dinners alike. Open since September 2004, chef-proprietor Michael Fiore orchestrates the creations coming from his kitchen, while co-owners Michael Elliott and Robert Amato oversee all aspects of dining room service.

Whether you're enjoying the bar or two dining rooms, the offerings on the Mediterranean-inspired American menu include "prime Black Angus rib-eye steak for two," with porcini mashed potatoes, recommended by Amato. For dessert, sample the house-made sorbets and gelatos, or go for the sticky date-and-toffee pudding served with creme fraiche and warm toffee sauce. Tempo offers about 200 wines from around the world, a dozen of which are available by the "quartino" (a third of the bottle) — making it more affordable for diners to order a different wine with each course. Additionally, a three-course, $25 fixed-price meal has been introduced on weekdays; it's $35 on Friday and Saturday nights. Tempo is open daily for dinner. Tempo Presto's takeout counter is open from 11 am to 10 pm on weekdays and 11 am to 11 pm on weekends.

The V Spot

156 Fifth Ave. at Douglass Street, (718) 622-2275, www.thevspotcafe.com (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: $6-$14. ★

"Everything is 100 percent vegan," manager Lauren Fasullo told GO Brooklyn. It's almost hard to believe with such a wide selection of paninis, wraps, burgers and pastas. But since their opening in 2006, everything at the V-Spot is strictly vegetarian. In addition to the fresh-squeezed juices and organic wine and beer, they also have raw and gluten-free options. Coming soon will be the "vegan bake-off and the flea market on Mondays," said Fasullo. "Anyone interested in participating should contact us." Open Tuesday through Friday for lunch and dinner and weekends for brunch and dinner. Closed on Mondays.

Editor's note: These are a sampling of restaurants in the neighborhood. The list rotates, and it is not comprehensive. For more restaurants, go to www.brooklynpaper.com. If your restaurant is not listed and you would like it to be, please contact GO Brooklyn Editor Lisa Curtis via e-mail at Curtis@brooklynpaper.com.

Back to school

Brooklyn scribe Liza Monroy goes to the head of the class with 'Mexican High'

By Paula Roth
for The Brooklyn Paper

The Brooklyn Paper / Jeff Bachner

News from the stoop: Author Liza Monroy, at home in Prospect Heights, will read from her new book on Sept. 25 at the 440 Gallery in Park Slope.

Growing up, Liza Monroy traveled the globe with her diplomat father, yet the author of the gripping coming-of-age story "Mexican High" now revels in the suburban feel of Prospect Heights.

"It's a great neighborhood, like New England — quiet, with trees," said the debut novelist, who, like her heroine, Mila Marquez, is the daughter of a US Foreign Service officer and did attend an exclusive secondary school in Mexico's teeming capital when her mom was stationed there in the early '90s.

While the book grew out of Monroy's experiences at a prep school for the over-indulged, hard-partying children of Mexican capitalists and politicos, and her mother really did dispense near-fatal advice about wearing tropical colors to a school where rich, popular kids, called "fresas," favored Prada, Gucci and Armani, the freelance journalist and Columbia grad student emphasizes the book is a work of fiction.

"I originally set out to write a memoir, but I'd get 75 pages in and it would fall apart, and I couldn't figure out why," Monroy, 28, explained while sipping iced coffee in a Flatbush Avenue cafe. "Then I realized I was stifled by my own story because the most interesting things about Mexico City — its people and conflicts — hadn't really happened to me. With a novel, I felt I could play with different timelines and, for emotional impact, bring the story a lot closer in to the protagonist."

Inventively, Monroy inserts herself — as "a pixieish brown-haired girl" — into an early party scene. Describing this Hitchcock-like cameo, Monroy said, "I put myself in because that made it even more distant from me — if I was in the book, then I was definitely not Mila."

If plot elements like assassination, sexual assault and Mexican jail are not enough to mesmerize readers, Monroy heightens the tension by adding another twist to Mila's journey: her quest for the powerful politician whose one-night tryst with Mila's hippie-ish mom, Maggie, led to her birth. It's a good thing Mila is a student reporter, because Maggie won't reveal his identity.

Monroy's own accelerated career began in 2005 after she left her job as assistant to hot shot William Morris literary agent Jay Mandel to focus on freelance journalism. That April, her first published essay ran in the "Modern Love" column in the New York Times, and clips in the Los Angeles Times, Newsweek, the New York Times Magazine and the Village Voice — among other publications — soon followed. She parlayed her travel experience into essays for anthologies on Mexico and Greece. And the novel she began in 2005 was sold by the end of 2006.

Although Monroy had to wait 18 tense months till publication, her engaging take on timeless teen dramas like psychic (and, in Mila's case, physical) dislocation, first love, identity crises and peer pressure has clearly struck a chord: since its June release, it's been named a top summer read by the Chicago Tribune, Time Out and METRO.

Monroy is thrilled her book has resonated with readers.

"When I was writing this, I was trying to get into my head who it was for, and I decided I'd write something I'd like to read — something with a lot of adventure, a window into a different world."

Writing the book was cathartic for her.

"I also did it to get my obsession with Mexico City out. It worked, because now I'm no longer obsessed with it, and I'm on to writing about the next phase of my life."

That next phase will unfold in a memoir Monroy is completing in Columbia University's creative nonfiction MFA program. Based on her much-discussed New York Times "Modern Love" piece on how she married her gay best friend after 9-11 to avert his deportation, the book addresses hot-button issues like gay marriage and immigration.

These are issues Monroy feels passionate about, and the author — who teaches essay writing at Mediabistro and freshman composition at Columbia — has good advice for aspiring writers.

"What I learned was, if there's something that keeps popping up and you can't get away without writing about it, then it's something you should go with."

As Monroy aims to complete the memoir by next spring, her move from the East Village to Brooklyn in January seems well-timed.

"I really wanted to be somewhere quiet and calm at night."

And since the memoir will run right up to the present, Monroy's new borough should play a role.

After all, as Mila shrewdly observes in "Mexican High": "Maybe it was a side effect of moving around so much, but I always knew that nothing influences a person more than the place she calls home."

BOOKS

Liza Monroy will read from her novel "**Mexican High**" (Spiegel & Grau, $21.95) at the 440 Gallery (440 Sixth Avenue between Ninth and Tenth streets in Park Slope, (718) 499-3844, www.440gallery.com) on Sept. 25. "Mexican High" is available at Barnes & Noble (267 Seventh Avenue at Sixth Street in Park Slope). For information, visit www.lizamonroy.com.

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Ambulance history

Long Island College Hospital

What makes a neighborhood a good place to live? Friendly people, good schools - and of course, a horse-drawn ambulance stabled right in the community!

This was Long Island College Hospital (LICH) of Brooklyn in 1873. Fifteen years after the hospital's 1858 founding, its ambulance service had been established to bring patients to the hospital at the fastest possible gallop.

Then, as now, response times were measured to ensure the public was being well served — but the time it took to hitch the horse was factored into the calculations. The "ambulance surgeon" was often required to leap onto the wagon as the horse began to race down the street.

By the 1920s, the horse had been replaced by a motorized vehicle. A new ambulance cost $4,200. Today, 135 years after the service was founded, the cost of a new, fully loaded ambulance can reach $150,000. Long Island College Hospital's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) operates 6 ambulances, employs 65 paramedics and emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and responds to over 10,000 emergency calls per year. Modern ambulances are equipped with oxygen, advanced airway equipment, defibrillators, 12-lead EKG monitors, pulse oximeters and more. They also carry antidote kits for chemical/biological incidents.

On 9/11, LICH lost an ambulance, crushed by the fall of the Twin Towers as its crew triaged patients a short distance away. Only 7 months later, thanks to local, grass-roots fund raising, a new one was dedicated.

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OUR OPINION

It's America's shame

The Prison Ship Martyrs Monument in Fort Greene Park is one of the nation's most important war memorials.

Here, in an underground crypt, are the remains of 11,500 American soldiers who died on British prison ships moored during the Revolutionary War in what is now the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Many historians believe that the horrifying deaths of those prisoners of war was America's true baptism of fire — more so than the Boston Massacre or the shots fired at Lexington and Concord.

The Stanford White–designed monument will celebrate its 100th anniversary in November. The commemoration will recall the 1908 dedication of the site, which was an event so important that president-elect Taft, all 320 pounds of him, attended.

So why is the site — which is nothing less than the repository of the American soul — in such lousy shape today?

Fenced off from the rest of the park, the memorial has been left to decay and become overwhelmed by weeds.

It looks more like a vacant lot, not a hallowed site.

For the better part of a year, the Parks Department has promised that the hilltop memorial would be in ship-shape condition in time for the Nov. 15 and 16 centennial events.

But in May, the agency fired an allegedly corrupt contractor — and no work has been done since.

It's bad enough that the Parks Department feels it needs an outside contractor to repair a site that is under its own jurisdiction. What's worse here is that the $2.3-million restoration project is $600,000 over budget, as The Brooklyn Paper reported on its Web site on Wednesday.

Yet the Parks Department has so very little to show for it.

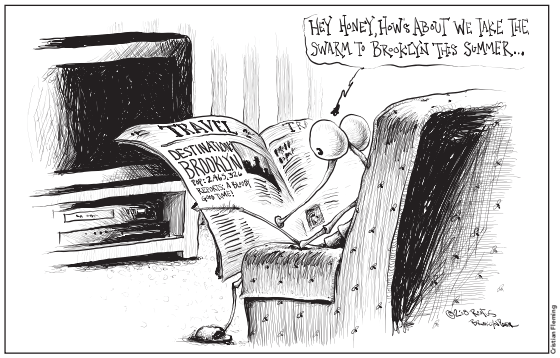
And veterans groups, Revolutionary War buffs and patriots are horrified at that has come to this.

"They don't seem to understand [that the November centennial] is a very significant event," Ted General, a member of the Society of Old Brooklynites, told The Brooklyn Paper this week. His group, which is hosting its own ceremony on Saturday, is trying to shine a light on this darkest of city failures.

"If this was the battlefields of Gettysburg, it would get a lot of attention," he added. "But for some reason it doesn't."

And that is America's — and the Parks Department's — shame.

ALL DRAWN OUT



Cristian Fleming

LETTERS

Dept. of Sanitation trashes our 'flier' editorial

To the editor,

Your editorial about the new lawn litter regulations ("This law is trash," Aug. 7) is itself littered with misleading information.

First and foremost, the "Lawn Litter" law is a state law, not a city law, which was signed by former Gov. Spitzer on Jan. 28, 2008. The city Department of Sanitation is designated with enforcing this law and, as such, has offered residents a sample sign that complies with the state requirements. The sample sign is available on our Web site, and has been distributed to community boards citywide as a public service.

In order to report a complaint, citizens must download a complaint form, attach it with the unwanted materials, and send it to the Department's Enforcement Unit.

This clear-cut system, not "bureaucratic morass" as you stated, allows homeowners to submit complaints to determine whether or not a violation should be issued to the companies responsible for the unsolicited ads.

Lastly, residents of multi-unit buildings are not solely at the mercy of the building owners. The law clearly states that in a multiple dwelling building, the property owner can only post a sign when all the residents agree to the posting. If one or more units of the building choose to receive unsolicited ads, the property owner may post a sign designating a particular location or receptacle in the building where unsolicited ads can be left, as well as the number of ads that can be left in that area. This allows residents in multiple dwellings who want to receive ads the ability to do so, even if their neighbors choose not to receive them.

We would hope that the next time The Brooklyn Paper chooses to criticize the city, it will accurately state the facts, not simply toss them out with the trash.

Matthew LiPani, Manhattan

The writer is assistant director of public information for the Department of Sanitation.

Editor's note: *The Brooklyn Paper did not say that the "Lawn Litter" law was a city law. But the city did draft the arcane regulations and create the "bureaucratic morass" — including the impractical multi-unit component — that our editorial criticized.*

Send a letter

By e-mail: Letters@BrooklynPaper.com

By mail: Letters, The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Brooklyn, NY 11201.

All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number (only the writer's name and neighborhood are published with the letter). **Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.**

Dylan a must-miss

To the editor,

I appreciated your review of Bob Dylan's concert in Prospect Park ("Two Dylans show up at Prospect Park," Aug. 13), because like your reviewer, I was severely disappointed by the whole experience, though I was one of thousands of people who camped out on the lawn outside the bandshell perimeter.

I went with my daughter to share with her the Dylan experience that I had so loved years ago, but was stymied by the Park's Department, which had put up an ugly green wall around the concert to make sure that only paying ticket-holders could see the show.

Rhudi Elizabeth Eagle, Park Slope

• • •

To the editor,

Sadly, I must agree with your review of the Dylan show.

As you stated, "Lay Lady Lay" is an absolute horror these days. I wish someone, anyone, would tell him to scratch that one from the set list. (Even if he could sing it decently, at age 67, he shouldn't be singing this song regardless.)

Unlike most of reviewers, you bravely wrote the truth. Those other guys said Bob's voice was "strong" or "sounding better than it has in years." Maybe that's true, but it doesn't mean much.

I continue to listen to Dylan and revere him as the top artist of my lifetime, but seeing him in concert is not something I will ever do again. I don't want to become one of the enablers.

Kenny Cramsey, Reading, Penn.

Raises: Heck no!

To the editor,

I respectfully disagree with letter writer Bill Harris ("They deserve raises," Aug. 16). State Sen. Marty Connor and colleagues applied for the job knowing the requirements and benefits. There was no draft.

The Senate's mediocre record also speaks volumes.

Consider for 20 out of the past 23 years, members of the legislature couldn't even pass a balanced budget on time. Adding insult to injury, they get bonuses for chairing committees, they get day-to-day meal expense accounts and reimbursement for travel to and from Albany.

Add this all up, and they earn almost three times what the average constituent earns.

Sen. Connor has a very lucrative election law practice on the side. Each year, he assists Democrats in keeping their challengers off the ballot to avoid primaries. He is the poster child for insider clubhouse politics who long ago gave up any pretenses of being an Albany reformer.

Don't shed any tears for our state senators. They are laughing at us all the way to the bank when cashing their paychecks at our expense!

Also, your recent editorial about the MTA's vending machine malfunctions ("The MTA's un-fare-ness," July 31) reminded me of the history of the MTA.

In 1953, the old Board of Transportation gave control of the subway system to the MTA. The governor, the mayor and city business leaders appointed board members for the new organization, ensuring no one elected official controlled a majority of the votes.

When operational problems occurred or fare increases were needed, however, everyone could put up his hands. Decade after decade, city officials would all play the same sad song: "If only we had control of the Board things would be different."

All have long forgotten that buried within the 1953 master agreement is an escape clause. The city has the legal right at any time to take back control of the transit system.

If municipal elected officials feel they could do a better job running the nations largest subway and bus system, why not step up to the plate now and regain control of their destiny?

Larry Penner, Great Neck

B'klyn Bridge blip

To the editor,

The five-year delay to Brooklyn Bridge Park that you rightly decried in your front-page story last week ("The 'park' stops here," Aug. 14) is just the beginning. Consider: the reconstruction of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway "Triple Decker" is being planned now and will probably not be complete until around 2020. This enormous project will postpone full use of the park during construction, despite official statements to the contrary.

In the grand scheme of things, the five-year delay of the piazza is a mere blip, well worth complaining and writing about (which you do consummately), but at the end of the day, it's but a blip. ***Bill Harris, Boerum Hill***

Green machine

To the editor,

After reading your columnist's take on the "Greenest Block in Brooklyn" award ("It's the pits! 'Greenest' block contest mired in muck," Aug. 7), I feel strongly that the winning block deserves recognition for the efforts that residents of Eighth Street between Eighth Avenue and Prospect Park West made for their improvement to the block. ***Judy Zehnder, Park Slope***

ATLANTIC ANTIQUES...

Continued from page 1

into one location at 374 Atlantic Ave., but Leibowicz said she now does better business through her Web site, www.circaantiquesltd.com, than in her store.

"I would like to stay open for a little longer, that's why we're consolidating. We're not ready to close up shop yet," she said.

It's not so much the increases in rent; Leibowicz said her landlord raised her lease to nearly $4,000 after decades of staying below $2,000. In good times, she could raise prices, but the poor economy means that people won't pay dearly for an extravagance like a $5,700 walnut bed or $10,000 Victorian dining room set when the big box on Beard Street is doing modern chic at low, low prices.

And, face it, how often do people buy big-ticket furniture items?

"The antique stores are kind of fun and funky, but how many antiques can one family buy?," King said. "If you put in an apparel store or a services business, then the families that live in the neighborhood can frequent the shop [more often]."

For new tenants, the rent is considerably steeper: King said average rents now run between $10,000 and $12,500 per month, up about $4,000 from two years ago.

The new shops include the clothing boutique Steven Alan at 349 Atlantic Ave., where Yul Vilbaum Antiques once was, and a wine bar, Donna Da Vine at 378 Atlantic Ave., where Nassar Furniture was. And neighbors can expect more of the same, said King, who is currently marketing spaces on Atlantic Avenue.

The new luxury developments — and big purses — coming to the neighborhood were expected to help things, but many of those projects have been downsized or slowed down because of the stagnant economy. As a result, many merchants now feel that they won't be around long enough to reap the benefit of having so many more well-off people in the neighborhood, explained Atlantic Avenue Betterment Association President Sandy Balboza.

"We've worked to develop this as a critical retail strip, but it's in danger," Balboza said.

To attract shoppers, the Association offers financial support to storeowners to hang new signs and better light the stores at night. But the shoppers aren't coming in the same hordes anymore, Balboza said.

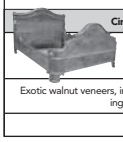
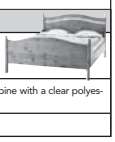
The once-darkened, emptier street has certainly shifted to a family neighborhood with restaurants and bars — which is an advantage — but longtime storeowners didn't expect that change to wipe them off the map, too.

"Property values go up," Leibowicz said. "Atlantic Avenue has always evolved — but now it's evolving and spinning us right off the block."

Simari agreed, and offered one note of hope: "I think this furniture will be rediscovered in 20 years, the way it was 40 years ago," he said. "We're in a normal, natural cycle. Victorian furniture has had 30 good, solid years."

Ikea vs. antique

Interest in antique furniture is declining, but are the new, value-conscious shoppers getting what they pay for? Here, The Brooklyn Paper compares two beds, one from Circa Antiques on Atlantic Avenue, the other from Ikea, the big box on Beard Street in Red Hook. Yes, folks, it's our first-ever furniture smackdown! ***— Sarah Portlock***

	Circa Antiques	Store	Ikea
	American Rococo, 1860	Style	Swedish farmhouse, 2008 
Exotic walnut veneers, intricate carvings and details		Material	Solid, stained pine with a clear polyester lacquer
$5,700		Price	$299

Pandamonium in W'burg

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Pandas might be an endangered species, but that didn't stop cops from capturing four of them in Williamsburg on Aug. 16.

Police broke up and arrested some participants in "Pandamonium 2008," a self-described "Costumed-Roving-Street-Party-Apocalyptic-Dance-Rock-Battle" that drew about 200 revelers — some wearing panda masks and black-and-white clothing — to the corner of Bedford Avenue and North Sixth Street for a guerrilla-style street party.

After meeting in Union Square in Manhattan, revelers took the L train to the Bedford Avenue stop at around 9 pm and began blocking traffic, dancing in the street as boombox blared music from the same radio station, waving banners adorned with the adorable animals, swigging free beer, and chanting "Panda! Panda!" and "Whose streets? Our streets?"

No, it wasn't a fundraiser for the World Wildlife Fund gone wrong — in fact, the panda-themed protest was ruse to bring apolitical youngsters into the activist fold, insiders told The Brooklyn Paper.

Carlos Rodotsch

Panda-mask–wearing hipsters roamed through Williamsburg on Saturday night, and four were arrested.

Carlos Rodotsch

Carlos Rodotsch

"The panda thing was entirely about attracting the audience we wanted in attendance," said a participant who gave his name as A. Panda. "If we had advertised it as a 'Direct Action Take Back The Streets' party, all we would get would be 20 or so anarchists dressed in black, and about 2,000 cops. So we made it a panda-themed party with free beer and loud music and tons of hip aesthetic."

A primer on the Pandamonium Web site defined the street party as an attempt "to retake space and transform it in a way that suits us" — but with all of the beer-guzzling, fire-dancing and traffic-blocking and passersby couldn't figure out whether the pandas were protesting or celebrating.

"I wish they expressed more of the reasoning behind it," one onlooker said. "I think a lot of people were confused and didn't really understand what was going on."

And cops didn't find the costumed partiers as cute as their real life counterparts — especially when they started taunting police by throwing things, cops and one of the pandas said. (There are several grainy videos of the police response on YouTube.com.)

"They said they were protesting high rent — and I guess 'the man' — but really, they were just individuals in their twenties that were there to have a good time," said Capt. Dennis Fulton, commanding officer of Greenpoint's 94th Precinct. "But what they actually did was waste my time and waste my resources by shutting down traffic and making it so emergency vehicles couldn't get through."

The four caged pandas were arrested and charged with misdemeanors including unlawful assembly, disorderly conduct, and inciting a riot, Fulton said.

Despite the police presence — which included an NYPD helicopter — another panda party is already in the works.

"Everyone got their [sic] charges dropped [so] we should do it again!" our panda source said.

HOOSEGOW...

Continued from page 1

he could flip the switch of a laser-powered stencil that would temporarily illuminate the side of a building near, ironically, Tiananmen Square with the words "Free Tibet."

Friends of the Grand Street resident found out about Powderly's detention on Tuesday when he posted on the social networking Web site Twitter that he had been "held since 3 am."

That's the last they've heard from Powderly.

"He wasn't unaware that there could be some [legal repercussions]," said his wife, Michelle Kempner. "It was just more important to him to stay true to his cause. Everything he does is about free speech."

Though Powderly was apprehended alone, he traveled to Beijing to collaborate with five activists from the group Students for a Free Tibet — including Brooklynites Samantha Corbin, Jacob Blumenfeld, and Lauren Valle — who were arrested later that day after unfurling a light-up "Free Tibet" banner in front of the famed "Bird's Nest" stadium, the student organization said.

Williamsburg's famed multi-media artist James Powderly was arrested — and is still being detained — in China.

Powderly and his American compatriots will be held for 10 days, the police statement said.

State Department spokeswoman Nicole Thompson said that federal officials were "seeking further information from Chinese authorities."

"The United States does encourage the government of China to demonstrate respect for human rights and that includes freedom of expression."

The New York art world was certainly expressing itself about Powderly's detention.

"We're all concerned and we're hoping for his quick release," said Amanda McDonald Crowley, executive director of the New York art and technology center, Eyebeam, where Powderly designed many of his projection tools.

"We have gathered that a number of other protesters have actually been released or quickly deported — we're hoping that what's going to happen here."

As China's authoritarian regime attempts to use these Olympic games to wipe away memories of the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, and decades of human rights abuses, the state has nonetheless cracked down on freedom of expression during the XXIX Olympiad, nixing all 77 applications for legal protests during the games, according to the New York Times.

And no subject is sorer than Tibet — the mountainous state to the northwest that China claims as its own territory, though Tibet was long a free state until China seized it in 1950.

Powderly's art has often addressed political themes with projections that criticize President Bush and the Iraq War, but he's never been in trouble with the law, his wife said.

"There is always natural concerns before a project like this, but I trust James and I don't think he would have embarked in something dangerous," she added.

Though nervous, Kempner is optimistic that her husband will be back in Billyburg soon.

"I'm expecting a random phonecall telling me that he's outside our apartment and that he can't find his key," she said.

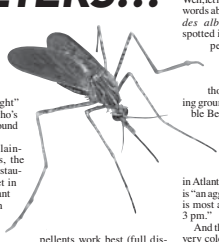
SKEETERS...

Continued from page 1

Yes, my friends, if you've been bitten by a mosquito this summer, you may have a blood link to Maggie Gyllenhaal.

But the "Dark Knight" star isn't the only one who's hearing a giant sucking sound coming from her leg.

"Everyone is complaining," said Carlos Elias, the co-owner of the new restaurant Aji on Ninth Street in Park Slope. The restaurant is heavily dependent on its two outdoor seating areas (they're lovely, by the way), which he says are not getting the kind of traffic they could be getting.



Posters on Park Slope Parents, the ubiquitous neighborhood Web site, have been trading secrets about which repellents work best (full disclosure: I have put so much DEET on my arms that I set off smoke detectors in neighboring houses) and whether the "mosquito season" will be over by September so a friend can go ahead and plan an outdoor birthday party.

Not sufficiently horrified? Well, let me tell you a few choice words about our "friend," *Aedes albopictus*. Originally spotted in Texas in 1985, this pernicious little devil now has a range that spreads from Mexico to Greenpoint, though his main stomping grounds seem to be the Bible Belt (for now).

According to the Centers for Disease Control (and these people should know; they're based in Atlanta!), the tiger mosquito is "an aggressive day-biter and is most active from 10 am to 3 pm."

And their eggs "can survive very cold winters."

Here's hoping that we go into a mini–Ice Age this December. Otherwise, these mosquitos are coming back in full force next spring and carrying off my son as their love slave.

The Brooklyn Paper PARENT

KIDS • SCHOOL • STYLE • TEENS • CAMPS • MUSIC

FAMILY CALENDAR

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Jay

FRIDAY, AUG. 22

9:30 am: Bird watching. Park at the foot of Main Street in DUMBO. **Free**. For info visit www.brooklynbridgepark.org.

10 am-6 pm: Free admission at the New York Aquarium (West Eighth Street and Surf Avenue in Coney Island). Call (718) 265-FISH for info.

8 pm: Family movie, "Asai: The Rain Warriors." Fulton Park (corner of Utica Avenue and Fulton Street in Bed-Stuy). **Free**. Call (718) 230-0492 for info.

SATURDAY, AUG. 23

11 am: Golf clinic. Von King Park (park is at Greene, Marcy, Lafayette and Tompkins avenues in Bedford-Stuyvesant.) **Free**. Pre-register at clinics@fineriflegolf.org. Call (917) 250-0184 for info.

5:30 pm: Family disco party. The Moxie Spot (81 Atlantic Ave., at Hicks Street in Brooklyn Heights). **Free**. Call (718) 923-9710 for info.

SUNDAY, AUG. 24

1 pm: Nature themed crafts. Fort Greene Park Visitors Center (enter park at Myrtle Avenue, or DeKalb Avenue at Washington Park). **Free**. Call (718) 722-3218 for info.

1 pm: Family picnic. Face painting, picnic games, food and drink, juggling and prizes. Prospect Park Picnic House (enter park at Prospect Park West and Fifth Street). **Free**. For info, visit www.tuckaberry.com.

3 pm-9 pm: Treats and boogie music at The Yard (388 Carroll St., between Bond and Nevins in Gowanus). **Free**. Visit www.theyard.ws for info.

MONDAY, AUG. 25

10:30 am: End of summer reading party. Brooklyn Public Library's Central Branch (in Grand Army Plaza at Flatbush Avenue and Eastern Parkway). **Free**. Call (718) 230-2100 for info.

TUESDAY, AUG. 26

7 pm: Family day with games, rides, prizes and more. McKinley Park (Fort Hamilton Parkway at 75th Street in Dyker Heights). **Free**. Call (718) 236-7547 for info.

THURSDAY, AUG. 28

Noon-6 pm: Free rides on the Prospect Park Carousel. (enter park at Flatbush Avenue just north of Empire Boulevard). Call (718) 8999 for info.

7:30 pm: Ezra Jack Keats bedtime stories. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch (in Grand Army Plaza at Flatbush Avenue and Eastern Parkway). **Free**. Call (718) 230-2100 for info.

FRIDAY, AUG. 29

3 pm: Free admission at the New York Aquarium (West Eighth Street and Surf Avenue in Coney Island). Call (718) 265-FISH for info.

8 pm: Kid film. "The Wiz." Fulton Park (corner of Utica Avenue and Fulton Street in Bedford-Stuyvesant). **Free**. Call (718) 230-0492 for info.

SATURDAY, AUG. 30

11 am: Golf clinic. See Saturday, Aug. 23.

SUNDAY, AUG. 31

3 pm-9 pm: Treats and boogie music. See Sunday, Aug. 24.

To list your event, e-mail information to Calendar@BrooklynPaper.com.

Spirit's got Dylan fever

By Louise Crawford

Smartmom did not go to the Bob Dylan show in Prospect Park last week. Instead, she was dining on grilled salmon, fresh corn and arugula salad in the backyard of a Sag Harbor summer rental while the world's greatest songwriter was singing "Rainy Day Women #12 and 35."

It's not like she didn't want to be there. When the tickets went on sale in June, she was quick type "Tilden," the special code that she read about on BrooklynPaper.com that enabled her to charge two $85 tickets to her credit card before the rest of the Dylan-loving masses could buy them.

Expensive, yes. But it was Bob Dylan in her own backyard. Who could resist?

Smartmom could tell that Hepcat was dubious about the purchase.

"That's an awful lot of money," said Hepcat, ever frugal. "Besides, aren't we going to be in Sag Harbor that week?"

Well, yeah. But that didn't matter. They could always Jitney back to the city for the night.

"It's Dylan, after all," she said.

"It's Sag Harbor, after all," he said.

In the end, Smartmom gave the tickets to Teen Spirit, a huge Dylan fan. In a sense, she was passing on the baton. Just like she'd given him her old acoustic guitar.

"You got tickets? Wow. Of course I want to go," he yelped when she gave them to him. Clearly, he was expecting a life-changing experience. First, he had to choose whom to take. Then he decided that he was going to bring his guitar to the show.

Afterwards, he wanted to play Dylan one of his songs.

Smartmom and Hepcat did little to disabuse Teen Spirit of this wacky idea. A boy can dream. Besides, he never listens to them anyway.

In some ways, Teen Spirit is just like his mom.

Smartmom and Dylan go back, way back. Not only was he the voice of her generation, but he's been the soundtrack of her life.

When Smartmom was 11, her parents gave her a vintage leather jacket (from Ridge Furs on Eighth Street) and a Dylan songbook.

Boy, did Smartmom love that aviator jacket. But that songbook was her bible for so many years. She was a budding singer/songwriter, after all. And he was her hero.

Smartmom saw Dylan at Madison Square Garden, in upstate Binghamton, at Madison Square Garden again during his Born Again phase when he sang with those great back-up singers. She saw him with Tom Petty and later with GE Smith in concert with Joni Mitchell.

She even ran into him once on Eighth Avenue in Park Slope across the street from the Montauk Club on June 12, 2000, Teen Spirit's ninth birthday. The musical legend was wearing a white cowboy hat and walking with a photographer.

"Omigod," she screamed.

"That's Bob Dylan."

"Who?" Teen Spirit asked.

Boldly, Smartmom asked Dylan for an autograph. He obliged and signed his name on the back of an American Express billing envelope she had in her bag. Luckily, she didn't mail it.

That envelope, now framed, sits on the bookshelf in her and Hepcat's dining room.

A few years ago, Teen Spirit bought Smartmom "The Definitive Bob Dylan Songbook" for her birthday. He dropped hints for days, "You'll probably start to cry when you open my gift." And he was right.

So fair is fair. Smartmom has had plenty of Bob Dylan in her life and last week was Teen Spirit's chance to revel in the legend. He knows that Dylan can barely sing anymore. He knows that you can't recognize the songs because Dylan changes the tunes; it's a veritable game of "Name That Tune" when he starts to play.

Still, Teen Spirit was ready for anything (though he was, fortunately, talked out of bringing his guitar by a friend).

In Sag Harbor, Smartmom thought about her son at the show.

But she was there in a way. Through her son's eyes and ears. Plus, she got to hear about it in the morning.

"He can't sustain a note," Teen Spirit said. "He basically just yells the words."

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- Centers are open Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. until Friday, September 12. Call 311 for Center locations.

Translated materials and interpretation services will be available at all Centers.

NYC Department of Education

Call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/schools/enrollment for more information about registration.

Whitney in Bay Ridge? Houston: 'We have a problem'

The Brooklyn Paper / Emily Lavin

Not *the* Whitney Houston? Apparently not. This Fourth Avenue club won't be hosting the famed singer, her manager says.

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Breaking news! Whitney Houston will not — we repeat, not! — be playing an obscure bar in Bay Ridge next month.

The neighborhood was buzzing after Pazzo, a Fourth Avenue eatery better known for its culinary than its A-list acts, hanged a banner announcing that the R-and-B diva would perform on Sept. 27.

Some passersby were left scratching their heads, while true fans were waiting to exhale.

But The Brooklyn Paper has learned that Houston has a problem: She ain't coming.

"The sign is not true," said Cassie Maruca, a spokeswoman for the singer with the famous five-octave range.

Bolstering Maruca's denial, Pazzo, which is on a quiet block between 100th and 101st streets, has been closed for weeks.

"I really can't see Whitney Houston playing this little place," said Robert Russo of Bensonhurst as he passed the sign. "I don't see why she would come all the way out here."

But before the singer's flack issued the flat-out denial some Ridge residents pointed out that the appearance — or any appearance, frankly — could be a good thing for Houston right now.

"Her career is kind of dead right now, so maybe that's why she's coming here, but still, she could do better than this," said Natalia Hernandez, referring to the former chart-topper's fall from superstardom amidst persisting rumors of drug abuse during her turbulent marriage with singer Bobby Brown.

"But I don't think she needs the money that bad."

Despite the snub, Houston diehards remain confident that she (make that she-e-e-e-e) will always love her fans in the Ridge.

"Why wouldn't she come here?" one fan of the crooner asked. "If they pay her, she'll be here — and so will I."

Owners of Pazzo could not be reached for comment. Their phone has been disconnected (which will really make it difficult to finalize that booking with Houston's people).

BRUCE'S POWER TOWER

DeKalb Avenue project gets big state bucks

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

He thought it would be Atlantic Yards, but developer Bruce Ratner's first residential building in Brooklyn will actually be this 34-story rental tower on DeKalb Avenue in Fort Greene.

Ratner has closed his financing deal on the $200-million Costas Kondylis–designed "green" building on the block between Hudson Avenue and Rockwell Place this week, his company, Forest City Ratner, announced on Wednesday.

The building is underwritten by $109.5 million in hard-to-get tax-exempt bonds from the state Housing Finance Agency. The project calls for 20 percent of its 365 units to be set aside as below-market-rate rentals, but critics pointed out that the state subsidy means that the public will be spending $1.5 million for each affordable unit.

A spokesman for the Housing Finance Agency said such back-of-the-envelope calculations miss the larger point.

"We don't finance only the affordable units in a building; we finance the entire building because the developer has committed to having affordable units in it," said the spokesman, Phil Lentz. "Without our financing, such buildings would not get built, so the affordable units would not get built."

Such bonds are increasingly difficult to obtain thanks to a boom in projects statewide and a city law that requires developers in a wider area of the city to include affordable housing if they want to receive public subsidies.

In addition to the fact that construction of the building has already begun, the building also differs from Atlantic Yards in its affordable housing plan. Unlike Atlantic Yards, the below-market rentals at 80 DeKalb Ave. will be insulated from market forces for 99 years, Ratner said.

For the first 35 years, 62 of the units will be available for households earning up to 50 percent of the area median income, currently $74,600, and 11 of the units will be reserved for households earning 40 percent of that figure.

After that, all 73 units will become available to households earning up to 90 percent of whatever the area median income is in 35 years.

The 292 market-rate units are expected to command top dollar. Not only is the building on the edge of both a booming Downtown and the BAM Cultural District, but it is within walking distance to the subway hub at DeKalb Avenue and Flatbush Avenue Extension, making for easy commutes to Manhattan.

Eighty-five percent of the building's units will be studios and one-bedrooms.

Also, the building is designed to be "green," and is aiming to achieve the so-called "LEED certification," a sustainable design standard administered by the U.S. Green Building Council. Ratner's statement said the building would use "low or no volatile organic compound emitting materials" and would reduce water use with low-flow fixtures.

"We're very excited about 80 DeKalb," Ratner said in the statement. "It is a magnificent building at a great location that will provide both affordable and market-rate homes. We believe, too, that this is positive development during a tough market and points to the ongoing attraction of Brooklyn as a place to live and work."

Construction began last Monday and the company claims that the building will open in late summer, 2009.

Ratner's Atlantic Yards, by comparison, is stalled. The developer says he will build all 16 buildings in the mega-project near the corner of Atlantic and Flatbush avenues, but only the basketball arena and two residential buildings currently have a completion schedule, though it is unclear when they will be built.

Ratner has said the entire Yards project will be done by 2018.

Forest City Ratner Companies

Bruce Ratner nabbed hard-to-get affordable housing subsidies to build his first Brooklyn residence, the 34-floor building at 80 DeKalb Ave.

CRACKHOUSE...

Continued from page 1

cess to the building through second-floor windows.

And some residents of the block, which is between Metropolitan Avenue and Olive Street, say the fence is only making things worse.

"The owners of the building need to take down that fence," Kehr said. "It's not helpful in terms of safety and it provides visual cover for people who are doing illicit things."

But the owners, who are planning to demolish the crackhouse to make room for a 20-unit condo, say they can't obtain the necessary permits to tear down the decaying building without having a fence.

"I know we've got a lot of the homeless [living there]," said Carlos Mery, who owns the building with his brother Andres. "We put the window guards in, we've put gates on the doors, but they always find a way in. … I'm also very concerned, but there is nothing I can do."

Cops say they are aware of community complaints.

"We do visit to the location," said an officer from the 90th Precinct. "We do not have any way to get into the building — it's boarded up and it is [structurally] a dangerous building. We have been trying to get in touch with the owners. There have been arrests over there for trespassing and drugs."

The Brooklyn Paper / Ben Muessig

Getting into the suspected Orient Avenue crackhouse is easy, said next-door neighbor Adam Kehr, showing off a knocked-down section of plywood fence.

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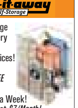

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 14th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00724/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Johnson Cui. My present name is Jonathan Johnson Cui f/k/a Johnson Cui. My present address is 8622 Bay Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11214. My place of birth is New York, NY. My date of birth is February 23, 1988. BEN 33

LEGAL NOTICES

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF OBJECT OF ACTION STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT: COUNTY OF KINGS ACTION TO FORECLOSE A MORTGAGE INDEX NO.: 31542/07US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION , AS TRUSTEE FOR CSFB HOME EQUITY ASSET TRUST 2007-1 Plaintiff, vs. SEM SAINT AUBIN, Defendant(s). Mortgaged Premises: 153 HULL STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11233SBL #: Block: 1534 Lot: 74TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT: You are hereby summoned to answer the Complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff(s) attorney(s) within twenty days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York). In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. The Attorney for Plaintiff has an office for business in the County of Erie. Trial to be held in the County of KINGS. The basis of the venue designated above is the location of the Mortgaged Premises. Dated this 30th day of July, 2008,Steven J. Baum, P.C., Attorney(s) For Plaintiff(s),220 Northpointe Parkway, Suite G, Amherst, NY 14228 TO: SEM SAINT AUBIN, Defendant(s) In this Action. The foregoing Summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an order of HON. FRANCOIS A. RIVERA of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, dated the 7th day of July, 2008 and filed with the Complaint in the Office of the KINGS County Clerk, in the City of Brooklyn. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage upon the premises described below, executed by SEM SAINT AUBIN dated the 7th day of September, 2006, to secure the sum of $480,000.00, and recorded at Instrument No. 2006000560716 in the Office of the Clerk of the County of KINGS, on the 15th day of October, 2006; Said mortgage is to be assigned by an Assignment to be recorded in the Office of the Clerk of KINGS County. The property in question is described as follows:153 HULL STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11233SEE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the northerly side of Hull Street, distant 15 feet easterly from the corner formed by the intersection of the northerly side of Hull Street with the easterly side of Rockaway Avenue; RUNNING THENCE northerly parallel with Rockaway Avenue and part of the distance through a party wall, 80 feet; THENCE easterly parallel with Hull Street, 15 feet; THENCE southerly again parallel with Rockaway Avenue and part of the distance through another party wall, 80 feet to the northerly side of Hull Street; THENCE westerly along the northerly side of Hull Street, 15 feet to the point or place of BEGINNING. HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE NEW YORK STATE LAW REQUIRES THAT WE SEND YOU THIS NOTICE ABOUT THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY. MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE IS A COMPLEX PROCESS. SOME PEOPLE MAY APPROACH YOU ABOUT "SAVING" YOUR HOME. YOU SHOULD BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL ABOUT ANY SUCH PROMISES. THE STATE ENCOURAGES YOU TO BECOME INFORMED ABOUT YOUR OPTIONS IN FORECLOSURE. THERE ARE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, LEGAL AID ENTITIES AND OTHER NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT YOU MAY CONTACT FOR INFORMATION ABOUT FORECLOSURE WHILE YOU ARE WORKING WITH YOUR LENDER DURING THIS PROCESS. TO LOCATE AN ENTITY NEAR YOU, YOU MAY CALL THE TOLL-FREE HELPLINE MAINTAINED BY THE NEW YORK STATE BANKING DEPARMENT AT 1-877-BANK-NYS OR 1-877-226-5697 OR VISIT THE DEPARTMENT'S WEB SITE AT WWW.BANKING.STATE.NY.US/. THE STATE DOES NOT GUARANTEE THE ADVICE OF THESE AGENCIES. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. DATED: July 30, 2008Steven J. Baum, P.C., Attorney(s) For Plaintiff(s),220 Northpointe Parkway, Suite G, Amherst, NY 14228 BP31-34

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Beeman Construction, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 7/16/2008. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to LLC, 912 Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11221. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity. BP-NBZ 31-36

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF OBJECT OF ACTION STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT: COUNTY OF KINGS ACTION TO FORECLOSE A MORTGAGE INDEX NO.: 29514/07 U.S. BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, vs. DAVID FLORES, Defendant(s). Mortgaged Premises: 1560 WEST 3RD STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11204 SBL #: Block: 6603 Lot: 31 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT: You are hereby summoned to answer the Complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff(s) attorney(s) within twenty days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York). In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. The Attorney for Plaintiff has an office for business in the County of Erie. Trial to be held in the County of KINGS. The basis of the venue designated above is the location of the Mortgaged Premises. Dated this 6th day of August, 2008, Steven J. Baum, P.C., Attorney(s) For Plaintiff(s), 220 Northpointe Parkway, Suite G, Amherst, NY 14228 TO: DAVID FLORES, Defendant(s) In this Action. The foregoing Summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an order of HON. FRANCOIS A. RIVERA of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, dated the 7TH day of July, 2008, and filed with the Complaint in the Office of the KINGS County Clerk, in the City of Brooklyn. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage upon the premises described below, executed by DAVID FLORES dated the 16th day of November, 2006, to secure the sum of $680,000.00, and recorded at Instrument No. 2006000694527 in the Office of the Clerk of the County of KINGS, on the 19th day of December, 2006; Said mortgage is to be assigned by an Assignment to be recorded in the Office of the Clerk of KINGS County. The property in question is described as follows: 1560 WEST 3RD STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11204 SEE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the Westerly side of West Third Street distant three hundred feet and fifty feet Northerly from the comer formed by the intersection of the Westerly side of West Third Street with the Northerly side of Avenue P; RUNNING THENCE Westerly parallel with Avenue P, one hundred feet; THENCE Northerly parallel with West Third Street, twenty feet; THENCE Easterly parallel with Avenue P, one hundred feet to the Westerly side of West Third Street; THENCE Southerly along the Westerly side of West Third Street, twenty feet to the point or place of BEGINNING. HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE NEW YORK STATE LAW REQUIRES THAT WE SEND YOU THIS NOTICE ABOUT THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY. MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE IS A COMPLEX PROCESS. SOME PEOPLE MAY APPROACH YOU ABOUT "SAVING" YOUR HOME. YOU SHOULD BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL ABOUT ANY SUCH PROMISES. THE STATE ENCOURAGES YOU TO BECOME INFORMED ABOUT YOUR OPTIONS IN FORECLOSURE. THERE ARE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, LEGAL AID ENTITIES AND OTHER NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT YOU MAY CONTACT FOR INFORMATION ABOUT FORECLOSURE WHILE YOU ARE WORKING WITH YOUR LENDER DURING THIS PROCESS. TO LOCATE AN ENTITY NEAR YOU, YOU MAY CALL THE TOLL-FREE HELPLINE MAINTAINED BY THE NEW YORK STATE BANKING DEPARMENT AT 1-877-BANK-NYS OR 1-877-226-5697 OR VISIT THE DEPARTMENT'S WEB SITE AT WWW.BANKING.STATE.NY.US/. THE STATE DOES NOT GUARANTEE THE ADVICE OF THESE AGENCIES. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. DATED: August 6, 2008 Steven J. Baum, P.C., Attorney(s) For Plaintiff(s), 220 Northpointe Parkway, Suite G, Amherst, NY 14228 BP 32-35

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 18th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00740/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Maria Victoria Tello. My present name is Maria Victoria Tello Cuautle. My present address is 968 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11230. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is November 2, 2001. BP 33

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 18th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00739/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Edgar Tello. My present name is Edgar Tello Cuautle. My present address is 698 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11230. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is August 28, 1999. BP 33

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 15th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00732/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Jessica Borkowska. My present name is Jessica Kopacz. My present address is 5511 7th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11220. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is May 24, 1990. BP 33

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Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 14th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00716/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Pavel Patrikeyev. My present name is Paul Patrick a/k/a Paul Patrik. My present address is 4009 Seagate Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11224. My place of birth is Moscow, Russia. My date of birth is March 18, 1972. BP 33

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 14th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00722/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Noor Jamil. My present name is Shiza Noor Jamil Butt. My present address is 4108-8th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11232. My place of birth is Sialkot, Pakistan. My date of birth is December 15, 1994. BP 33

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 20th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00748/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Eudean Rachel Marx. My present name is Eudean Rachel Izawa a/k/a Eudean Izawa. My present address is 1729 East 16th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11229. My place of birth is Giessen, Germany. My date of birth is February 2, 1985. BP 33

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Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 12th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00712/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Carmen Awilda Shaikh. My present name is Shama Carmin Shaikh. My present address is 198 Bond Street, Apartment 9F, Brooklyn, NY 11217. My place of birth is Kings County, New York. My date of birth is March 12, 1988. BP 33

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 19th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00742/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Sue Trelles. My present name is Francisca Susana Trelles a/k/a Francisca Trelles. My present address is 553 46th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11220. My place of birth is Guayaquil, Ecuador. My date of birth is August 11, 1955. BP 33

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Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 8th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00684/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Cindy Liang. My present name is Hao Xin Liang a/k/a Cindy Liang. My present address is 1967 61st Street, Brooklyn, NY 11204. My place of birth is New York, NY. My date of birth is March 27, 1991. BR 33

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 6th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00674/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Tatiana Terehova. My present name is Tatsiana Tserakhava. My present address is 2078 Bay Ridge Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11204. My place of birth is Russia. My date of birth is February 23, 1991. BR 33

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 12th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00704/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Jerry Levitman. My present name is Chaim Zion Levy. My present address is 1245 - 41st Street, Brooklyn, NY 11218. My place of birth is New York, NY. My date of birth is June 27, 1989. BP 33

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 13th day of August 2008, bearing Index Number 00713/08, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at Civil Court, Kings County, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, in Room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Esther Wolf. My present name is Toby Wolf. My present address is 1230 41st Street, Brooklyn, NY 11213. My place of birth is Brooklyn, New York. My date of birth is October 1, 2006. BP 33

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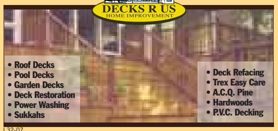

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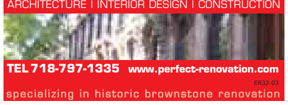

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